

Let's Have a Showdown in the Army

Brigadier General Lewis B. Hershey, of the Selective Service Administration, told a Washington delegation last week that the army has a way of getting around the non-discrimination clause in the Selective Service Act.

He pointed out that another clause in the act says that "no man may come into the army who is not acceptable to the army."

Two clauses in the act forbid racial discrimination: Section 3-a provides that any person, regardless of race or color, shall be afforded an opportunity to volunteer for induction into land and naval forces.

Section 4-a provides that in selection and training of men under this act, and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color.

These provisions are quite plain to us. They seem to be equally understandable to General Hershey, who announces that the army has a way to get around them.

The Selective Service Act says nothing that is not expressed equally as strongly in the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution. The Constitution forbids discrimination by the States. The act forbids discrimination by the Federal government.

Since several States have for years utilized one scheme or another to violate the Fourteenth Amendment, General Hershey thinks the army should have little difficulty in ducking the equal rights section of the Selective Service Act.

There is one fly in that ointment. It is a recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, handed down last week in a Harris County, Texas, rape case.

In that instance, the high court granted a new trial to a petitioner who maintained that the county courts had systematically barred colored people from grand juries.

Counsel for Texas denied any unconstitutional discrimination and pointed out that in the past nine years, eighteen colored persons had been called for grand jury service and in five cases had actually served.

The Supreme Court found this to be true, but it also discovered that 20 per cent of the people of Harris County are colored and 10 per cent are poll tax payers.

Such a large colored population, the court felt, should have produced more colored people on the grand jury unless there had been racial bias.

Looking more carefully into the case, Mr. Justice Black, who wrote the decision, discovered that colored persons, when called for Harris County grand jury service, were always given the number 16.

Since the grand juries consist of twelve persons, No. 16 would get a chance to serve only if and when it was impossible to get a jury out of the first fifteen names.

That was the slick scheme used to violate the Constitution and Mr. Justice Black and his colleagues saw through it.

Here is what they said in reversing the lower court and granting a new trial:

"If there has been discrimination, whether accomplished ingeniously or ingenuously, the conviction cannot stand."

We recommend these strong words to General Hershey, for whom (in case he hasn't his dictionary handy) we'll put them in army language.

What the Supreme Court says is:

"You can't duck the Constitution, either by design or by accident."

For other army, navy, air force and marine officials who may have General Hershey's views, the simplest rebuke should come from a test case.

The law isn't obeyed. Congress is defied. Discrimination exists.

Let the NAACP lose no time in yanking the War Department into the courts for a showdown.

Uncover New Instances Of Defense Jim Crowing

NEW YORK — Negro carpenters are being refused employment at construction projects now going forward at Fort Dix, N. J., and Negro skilled and unskilled workers are barred from working at United States Government air fields now under construction in three cities in Florida, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People revealed this week.

The revelation was made in connection with the association's survey of discrimination against the Negro in the operation of the government's national defense program throughout the country.

At Fort Dix, where construction firms working under government contracts are engaged in a huge building program to house troops, the N.A.A.C.P. learned that only three Negro carpenters are employed out of 350 carpenters working there.

Despite the fact that the Greater Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, an A. F. of L. union, which controls the job, has a large number of Negro members, many of whom have been in the union more than a score of years, the union has issued an order barring work to all except residents of the county.

No Negro members of the union live in the county. The three Negro

carpenters now employed at Fort Dix, got their jobs only after they made a strong protest.

More than 15 Negro carpenters have been refused work at the camp during the past few weeks, although white carpenters who are non-residents of the county, are being employed daily.

Negroes Barred in Florida
At West Palm Beach, Fla., where the government is preparing to spend a million dollars to build one of the numerous air fields proposed for this section of the country, the county commissioners have made it plain to local contractors that they prefer to have Negroes do what they term "agricultural work," rather than any type of skilled or unskilled work at Morrison Aviation Field.

Reports from Tallahassee, Fla., show that, despite the fact that scores of Negro skilled workers are available here, and have made application for work at the million-dollar air field construction job now going up, all have been refused, "while any white worker who has a saw or hammer is employed."

Ten Negro members of local 805 Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, affiliated with the A. F. of L., were recently employed for two weeks at the United States Naval Air station in Pensacola, Fla., but were fired under the pretext that work had been caught up.

Later it was reported, members of Local 737, whose members are

white, were hired in the place of the men dismissed. Both locals were chartered by the same union.

None on Draft Boards

In many sections of Florida, including Tallahassee, no Negroes are serving either on local or advisory draft boards, nor are any Negro physicians serving as medical aides with these boards.

The survey also reveals that no Negroes are serving on local draft boards in: Waterloo, Ia., Casper, Wyo.; Memphis, Tenn.; Pueblo, Colo. None are employed as paid workers on these boards in Waterloo, Casper, Memphis, and Pueblo. Pueblo, Colo., is the only city in the list with Negro physicians attached to the boards. In none of the cities is a Negro employed on advisory boards.

The association announced that it is not only continuing the fight against the Navy Department's summary dismissal of the Negro messmen who protested against the intolerable conditions to which they were subjected aboard ship, but broadening this campaign to include a fight to raise the whole status of the Negro in the Navy from the level of messman to which he is now relegated.

"We want to see a veritable broadside addressed to the Secretary of the Navy in the form of thousands of letters," Thurgood Marshall, special N.A.A.C.P. counsel said, "in order that the Navy Department will understand that Negro citizens do not propose to submit meekly to this state of affairs. We urge all citizens to send letters to Secretary Frank Knox and to their Congressmen, urging them to abolish the Jim-Crow set-up which relegates Negroes to the status of messmen, and gives them no chance to rise higher in the service, no matter what their qualifications or abilities may prove."

The Association has distributed the third list of individual government contracts let to firms throughout the country. The list includes the name of the city, contractor, item, and the total contract price.

Association branches have also received a survey questionnaire form to be used in gathering information. Branch committees are being set up to interview local plant managers about jobs for Negro workers.

THE PRICE OF SEGREGATION

It is in times like these that events bring home to us more clearly and painfully than usual the heavy price we have to pay for segregation.

The policy of segregation in the armed forces of the nation began with the Civil War, when a quarter million young Negroes, organized in separate units, fought and bled that the Union might live. In the Revolutionary War Negro and white soldiers fought side by side.

After the Civil War the policy of segregation continued with the passage by Congress of legislation creating the 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry regiments, and excluding Negroes from all other military service.

In the Spanish-American War the policy of racial segregation, now firmly entrenched, was enlarged and expanded.

With the coming of the World War, and the first drafting of a people's army, the policy of segregation was again enlarged and expanded, and like all segregation of races in America, gave the Negroes the worst of the deal.

The price of this policy of segregation has been the present difficulty confronting Negroes every way they turn, with discrimination and inequality surrounding them like a stockade.

The lack of trained Negro reserve officers is due to this policy.

Since the Civil War we have had an increasingly vocal class of Negroes who have accepted segregation and urged their people to accept it as better than nothing.

They have thought they could beat the ill effects of segregation by accepting, enlarging and glorifying it, and they have been mistaken.

The more segregation there is, and the more we condone and glorify it, the more used to it grow both whites and Negroes, and the less willing is either group to advocate and strive for something better.

William H. Hastie, the able Negro assistant to the Secretary of War, has truly said that the fight for a square deal for Negroes in the Army would be far more easily won if it were not for the Uncle Tom Negroes who go around asking for segregation.

We all ought to know by now that segregation is imposed for only one reason: to keep the Negro in an inferior status, so it does not matter whether the segregation is large or small, old-fashioned or modern, clean or dirty.

We must stop asking for more segregation, even if there is prospect of having complete Negro units in every branch of the service; and we must start fighting segregation sincerely and not with 20-ounce gloves.

We must learn that there are certain conditions so injurious to the soul that they should never be acceptable under any circumstances.

There is a great deal of logic in the assertion of some Negroes that it is better for our people to decline military

service rather than accept it on a basis that repudiates freedom, equality and democracy.

There is something bitterly ironical about Negroes fighting to defend democracy under circumstances that make mock of democracy.

SURVEY REVEALS RACE IS SHORT ON POSITIONS

NAACP Summary Also
Shows Few Colored
Receive Employment

NEW YORK—In sections of some thirteen States, including cities with a population of more than 100,000 Negro citizens, no Negroes have been appointed to local draft boards, according to a preliminary summary of incomplete returns from a survey conducted by the N.A.A.C.P., through its branches throughout the country.

Returns received from N.A.A.C.P. branches in twenty-nine cities of seventeen states and made public here this week disclose that no Negroes are serving on local boards in sections of South Carolina, New Jersey, Virginia, Missouri, Rhode Island, Delaware, Ohio, Texas, California, Kentucky, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Minnesota.

A summary of the first twenty-nine replies to a seven-item questionnaire sent out by the N.A.A.C.P. during the last week in November answers the following questions, which were put to officials of local branches in the organization.

How many Negroes have been placed on draft boards in your city? Was special action necessary to get them on, and what did your branch do? What are some of the problems that Negroes had to face when they registered for the draft? Were Negroes given paid jobs with draft board in your state, such as clerks or typists? Have Negro physicians been placed on medical examining boards in your state? Have any Negroes refused to register?

List Replies

The summary according to re-

plies received to date follows:

Florence, S. C.; Long Branch, N. J.; Danville, Va.; Kent, Ohio; Dallas, Texas; Thornhill, Va.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Monrovia, Calif.; Bell County, Ky.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Newark, N. J.; Aiken, S. C.; Providence, R. I.; Mexico, Mo.; and Wilmington, Del. all reported there were no Negroes on local draft boards.

Twelve Negroes were placed on the local draft boards in Detroit; 6 in Youngstown, O.; 2 in Amelia Court House, Va.; 28 in Washington, D. C.; 1 in Durham, N. C.; 3 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 25 in New York, N. Y.; 1 in Berkeley, Calif.; and Kansas City, Mo., reported there were Negroes on the boards but they did not now how many.

Florence, S. C.; Amelia Court House, Va.; and Aiken, S. C., reported there were segregated stations for registering. The Newark, N. J. branch reported that all Negroes were classified as "black" regardless of complexion. However, if the registrant complained, this was adjusted.

In Bell County, Ky., Negroes worked on registration boards and in many cases whites refused to come in to be questioned by Negroes.

Jobs Are Few

Fourteen Negroes are receiving employment on draft boards in Detroit; 1 in Youngstown, O.; 12 in Washington, D. C.; 3 in Providence, R. I.; 3 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 50 in New York, N. Y.; and Kent, Ohio, reported some employed but did not know how many. Florence, S. C.; Amelia Court House, Va.; Dallas, Texas; Thornhill, Va.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Monrovia, Calif.; Durham, N. C.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Newark, N. J.; Aiken, S. C.; Kansas City, Mo.; Berkeley, Calif.; and Wilmington, Del. all reported there were no Negroes hired in their localities for draft boards.

Negro physicians were placed on boards in Detroit, Mich.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Bell County, Durham, N. C.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Newark, N. J.; Providence, R. I.; New York, N. Y.; Berkeley, Calif.; Kansas City, Mo.; Washington, D. C.; and Mexico, Mo.

In Aiken, S. C., and Wilmington,

Del., there are Negro physicians serving as associate examiners. Oklahoma City, Okla. reports there are Negro physicians who examine Negroes only.

DEC 21, 1940

Adopts New Plan

Adopting a plan that does not coincide with the plan of advisory boards in other states, Gov. Burnet R. Maybank, South Carolina, has appointed 128 Negroes to serve as members of advisory boards throughout the state.

The power of these persons is limited to aiding Negro registrants in filling out application blanks etc., and does not include the power to review cases as is true of members on advisory boards in other states.

The balance summarized information on advisory boards in various states received by the association up to date follows:

There are 12 Negroes on advisory boards in Detroit, Mich.; 3 in Youngstown, O.; 3 in Florence, S. C.; 2 in Amelia Court House, Va.; 6 in Washington, D. C.; 5 in Long Branch, N. J.; 1 in Danville, Va.; 3 in Princeton, N. J.; 3 in Oklahoma City, Okla.; 6 in Newark, N. J.; 3 in Providence, R. I.; 1 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 12 in New York, N. Y.; 1 in Berkeley, Calif.; and 1 in Wilmington, Del. Dallas, Texas; St. Louis, Mo.; and Durham, N. C., reported there were Negroes on the advisory draft boards in: Peekskill, N. Y.; Kent, O.; Thornhill, Va.; Bell County, Kentucky; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Kansas City, Mo.; and Mexico, Mo.

In St. Louis, three men refused to register. One of these vices to register. One of these refused because he had been turned down when he volunteered his services for the Navy. The other two men, according to the N. A. A. C. P. branch, did not understand the draft.

14 States Daily World Have No Members

Jobs in Draft Setup Very Few, Summary Shows

DEC 19 1940

NEW YORK—(S.N.S.)—In sections of some fourteen states, including cities with a population of more than 100,000 Negro citizens, no Negroes have been appointed to local draft boards, according to a preliminary summary of incomplete returns from a survey conducted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People through its branches throughout the country.

Returns received from N.A.A.C.P. branches in twenty-nine cities of seventeen states and made public here today, disclose that no Negroes are serving on local draft boards in sections of South Carolina, New Jersey, Virginia, Missouri, Rhode Island, Delaware, Ohio, Texas, California, Kentucky, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Minnesota and Georgia.

LIST SUMMARY

A summary of the first twenty-nine replies to a seven-item questionnaire sent out by the N. A. A. C. P. during the last week in November answers the following questions which were put to officials of local branches in the organization: How many Negroes have been placed on draft boards in your city? Was special action necessary to get them on, and what did your branch do? What are some of the problems that Negroes had to face when they registered for the draft? Were Negroes given paid jobs with draft boards in your state, such as clerks or typists? Have Negro physicians been placed on medical examining boards in your state? Have any Negroes refused to register?

The summary according to replies received to date follows:

Florence, S. C.; Long Branch, N. J.; Danville, Va.; Kent, Ohio; Dallas, Texas; Thornhill, Va.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Mon-

rovia, Calif.; Bell County, Ky.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Newark, N. J.; Aiken, S. C.; Providence, R. I.; Mexico, Mo.; and Wilmington, Del., all reported there were no Negroes on local draft boards. Twelve Negroes were placed on the local draft boards in Detroit, Mich.; 6 in Youngstown, Ohio; 2 in Amelia Court House, Va.; 28 in Washington, D. C.; 1 in Durham, N. C.; 3 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 25 in New York, N. Y.; 1 in Berkeley, Calif.; and Kansas City, Mo., reported there were Negroes on the boards but they did not know how many.

Florence, S. C.; Amelia Court House, Va.; and Aiken, S. C., reported there were segregated stations for registering. The Newark, N. J., branch reported that all Negroes were classified as "black" regardless of complexion. However, if the registrant complained, this was adjusted. In Bell County, Kentucky, Negroes worked on registration boards and in many cases whites refused to come in to be questioned by Negroes.

JOBS ARE FEW

Fourteen Negroes are receiving employment on draft boards in Detroit, Michigan; 1 in Youngstown, O.; 12 in Washington, D. C.; 3 in Providence, R. I.; 3 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 50 in New York, N. Y.; and Kent, Ohio, reported some employed but did not know how many. Florence, S. C.; Amelia Court House, Va.; Danville, Va.; Dallas, Texas; Thornhill, Va.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Monrovia, Calif.; Durham, N. C.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Newark, N. J.; Aiken, S. C.; Kansas City, Mo.; Berkeley, Calif.; and Wilmington, Del., all reported there were no Negroes hired in their locality for work on draft boards.

Negro physicians were placed on boards in Detroit, Mich.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Bell County, Kentucky; Durham, N. C.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Newark, N. J.; Providence, R. I.; New York, N. Y.; Berkeley, Calif.; Kansas City, Mo.; Washington, D. C.; and Mexico, Mo. In Atlanta, Ga., Aiken, S. C., and Wilmington, Del., there are Negro physicians serving as associate examiners. Oklahoma City, Okla., reports there are Negro physicians who examine Negroes only.

ADOPTS NEW PLAN

Adopting a plan that does not coincide with the plan of advisory boards in other states, Governor Burnet R. Maybank, of South Carolina, has appointed 128 Negroes to serve as members of advisory boards throughout the state. The power of these persons is limited to

aiding Negro registrants in filling out application blanks, etc. and does not include the power to review cases as is true of members on advisory boards in other states.

The balance of summarized information on advisory boards in various states received by the association up to date follows:

There are 12 Negroes on advisory boards in Detroit, Mich.; 3 in Youngstown, O.; 3 in Florence, S. C.; 2 in Amelia Court House, Va.; 6 in Washington, D. C.; 5 in Long Branch, N. J.; 1 in Danville, Va.; 3 in Princeton, N. J.; 3 in Oklahoma City; 6 in Newark, N. J.; 3 in Providence, R. I.; 1 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 12 in New York, N. Y.; 1 in Berkeley, Calif.; and 1 in Wilmington, Del. Dallas, Texas; St. Louis, Mo.; and Durham, N. C., reported there were Negroes on the advisory draft boards but they did not know the exact number. There are no Negroes serving on advisory draft boards in: Peekskill, N. Y.; Kent, O.; Thornhill, Va.; Bell County, Kentucky; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Kansas City, Mo.; and Mexico, Mo.

DEC 19 1940
In St. Louis, three men refused to register. One of these refused because he had been turned down when he volunteered his services for the Navy. The other two men, according to the NAACP branch, did not understand the draft.

Find Many States Omit Race From Draft Boards

DEC 21 1940

NEW YORK—In some sections of 13 states, including cities with a population of more than 100,000 Negro citizens, no Negroes have been appointed to local draft boards, according to a preliminary summary of incomplete returns from a survey conducted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People through its branches throughout the country.

Returns received from N.A.A.C.P. branches in 29 cities of 17 states and made public here Friday, Dec. 13, disclosed that no Negroes are serving on local draft boards in sections of South Carolina, New Jersey, Virginia, Missouri, Rhode Island, Delaware, Ohio, Texas, California, Kentucky, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Minnesota. A summary of the first 29 replies to a seven-item questionnaire sent out by the N.A.A.C.P. during the

last week in November answers the following questions, which were put to officials of local branches in the organization:

How many Negroes have been placed on draft boards in your city? Was special action necessary to get them on, and what did your branch do? What are some of the problems that Negroes had to face when they registered for the draft? Were Negroes given paid jobs with draft boards in your state, such as clerks or typists? Have Negro physicians been placed on medical examining boards in your state? Have any Negroes refused to register?

The summary according to replies received to date follows:

Florence, S. C.; Long Branch, N. J.; Danville, Va.; Kent, Ohio; Dallas, Texas; Thornhill, Va.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Monrovia, Calif.; Bell County, Ky.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Newark, N. J.; Tiken, S. C.; Providence, R. I.; Mexico, Mo.; and Wilmington, Del., all reported there were no Negroes on local draft boards.

Twelve Negroes were placed on the local draft boards in Detroit, Mich.; 6 in Youngstown, Ohio; two in Amelia Court House, Va.; 28 in Washington, D. C.; one in Durham, N. C.; 3 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 25 in New York, N. Y.; one in Berkeley, Calif.; and Kansas City, Mo., reported there were Negroes on the boards but they did not know how many.

Florence, S. C.; Amelia Court House, Va.; Danville, Va.; Dallas, Texas; Thornhill, Va.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Monrovia, Calif.;

last week in November answers the following questions, which were put to officials of local branches in the organization:

How many Negroes have been placed on draft boards in your city? Was special action necessary to get them on, and what did your branch do? What are some of the problems that Negroes had to face when they registered for the draft? Were Negroes given paid jobs with draft boards in your state, such as clerks or typists? Have Negro physicians been placed on medical examining boards in your state? Have any Negroes refused to register?

The summary according to replies received to date follows:

Florence, S. C.; Long Branch, N. J.; Danville, Va.; Kent, Ohio; Dallas, Texas; Thornhill, Va.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Monrovia, Calif.; Bell County, Ky.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Newark, N. J.; Tiken, S. C.; Providence, R. I.; Mexico, Mo.; and Wilmington, Del., all reported there were no Negroes on local draft boards.

Durham, N. C.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Newark, N. J.; Aiken, S. C.; Kansas City, Mo.; Berkeley, Calif.; and Wilmington, Del., all reported there were no Negroes hired in their locality for work on draft boards. Negro physicians were placed on boards in Detroit, Mich.; Princeton, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; Bell County, Kentucky; Durham, N. C.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Newark, N. J.; Providence, R. I.; New York, N. Y.; Berkeley, Calif.; Kansas City, Mo.; Washington, D. C.; and Mexico, Mo. In Aiken, S. C. and Wilmington, Del., there are Negro physicians serving as associate examiners. Oklahoma City, Okla., reports there are Negro physicians who examine Negroes only.

South Carolina Adopts New Plan

Adopting a plan that does not coincide with the plan of advisory boards in other states, Governor Burnet R. Maybank, of South Carolina, has appointed 128 Negroes to serve as members of advisory boards throughout the state.

The power of these persons is limited to aiding Negro registrants in filling out application blanks, etc., and does not include the power to review cases as is true of members on advisory boards in other states.

The balance of summarized information on advisory boards in various states received by the association up to date follows:

There are 12 Negroes on advisory boards in Detroit, Mich.; 3 in Youngstown, Ohio; 3 in Florence, S. C.; 2 in Amelia Court House, Va.; 6 in Washington, D. C.; 5 in Long Branch, N. J.; 1 in Danville, Va.; 3 in Princeton, N. J.; 3 in Oklahoma City, Okla.; 3 in Newark, N. J.; 3 in Providence, R. I.; 1 in Buffalo, N. Y.; 12 in New York, N. Y.; 1 in Berkeley, Calif.; and 1 in Wilmington, Del. Dallas, Texas; St. Louis, Mo.; and Durham, N. C., reported there were Negroes on the advisory draft boards in: Peekskill, N. Y.; Kent, Ohio; Thornhill, Va.; Bell County, Ky.; Albuquerque, N. M.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Warren, Ark.; Kansas City, Mo.; and Mexico, Mo.

In St. Louis, three men refused to register. One of these refused because he had been turned down when he volunteered his services for the navy. The other two men, according to the N.A.A.C.P. branch, did not understand the draft.

"We Have No Tactical Units in The Air Corps for Negroes" Adit. Gen'l

The practice of racial discrimination in the United States Army Air Corps was again revealed this week when a letter from the Commanding General's office of the Sixth Corps area informed Roderick Charles Williams, 3556 South Parkway, that his application for appointment as a flying cadet was denied given in Texas. because he is a Negro.

Williams is an employee of the provision is made for colored U. S. Post Office. He made an flying cadets. There is no law application to become a cadet in making such a provision necessary for a Negro appointee except the unwritten law of race prejudice.

He is 26 years old. The maximum age limit for a flying cadet is 27. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1939, thereby meeting the minimum requirement of two years of college work. He fulfilled all the other ostensible requirements necessary for admission to the Air Corps. The letter informed him that there was another requirement that he did not fulfill. The letter, written by Major L. S. Smith, acting Adjutant General, said:

"The Congress has created several units of the Army exclusively for colored troops but no colored tactical units of the Air Corps have been authorized up to this time. Consequently, no provision has been made by the War Department for units to which members of the colored race could be assigned in the event of their completing the prescribed course of training to become military pilots. Accordingly, favorable consideration cannot be given your application for flying cadet appointment at this time. The supporting papers which accompanied your application are returned herewith.

"It is suggested that you communicate with the Administrator, Civil Aeronautics Authority, Washington, D. C., who, it is understood, has designated certain civilian flying schools for the training of colored pilots."

A part of the training of flying cadets for the Air Corps in the Chicago area is given in Rantoul, Ill., the remaining period is

far as the race is concerned with regard to aviation training for race members, and with limited, emasculated regular army forces and the equally emasculated national guard?" he asked. Senator Vandenberg said further "How about the thousands of patriotic colored citizens of the United States who cannot get into volunteer service at all because so relatively few units are provided them? Under date of August 5," he continued, "the secretary of war writes me regarding this question as follows: 'A large portion of the colored men who enlist in the army make the service a life-time career. For this reason there is a comparatively low turnover in colored organizations; and consequently comparatively a small number of openings for original enlistment at any time. The question of the formation of additional colored units is under study in the war department.'

"Here is a great sector of our people which can scarcely chise its volunteer way into a service," the Senator continued, "which when it has had the chance it has always sustained with great devotion. We are advised that there is a small number of openings for

'NO ARMY, NAVY JIM CROW; NO DISFRANCHISE'

Defender
Walter White Also Asks Favorable Action On Anti-Lynch Bill

7-20-40
Charging "open and notorious discrimination" in the army and navy and citing the recent lynching at Brownsville, Tenn., Walter White,

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People secretary headed a committee of five which appeared before the resolutions committee of the Democratic National Convention at the Blackstone hotel here Friday, July 12, demanding a plank on the Negro in the platform of the Democratic party.

White, spokesman for the group, described in detail the lynching of Elbert Williams at Brownsville, Tenn., and painted a picture of the terror to which Negro citizens in that town have been subjected since a few of them, led by the N.A.A.C.P. branch, had indicated their intention to register and vote in the presidential election next November.

Secretary White said the Brownsville lynching was the fourth of 1940 and indicated the need for federal action against mobs. He pointed out that the lynching had occurred as a result of Negro Americans trying to exercise their right to vote and called upon the Democratic party for immediate passage at this session of Congress of the anti-lynching bill which has already passed the House and is now on the Senate calendar.

The N.A.A.C.P. committee also suggested a declaration by the Democrats in the platform for the integration of Negroes in all branches of the armed services.

It was pointed out that Negro citizens are being called upon to bear the burden of defense, but are not permitted to enlist in the navy except as mess attendants and are barred from the air corps, the coast artillery, the engineering corps and other branches of the army except the infantry and the cavalry.

The committee also asked for the abolishment of the poll tax and the lily-white primaries; abolition of the color line in employment; equitable distribution of federal funds to states to aid education, health, housing, relief, farm aid and other services; extension of Social Security to agricultural, domestic and casual labor; abolition of the color line in federal government posts and enforcement of civil rights laws in all sections of the United States.

The N.A.A.C.P. committee appeared before the resolutions committee at the invitation of Senator Robert F. Wagner, chairman. Other members of the committee besides Mr. White included Irvin C. Molison, Chicago; Roscoe Dunjee, Oklahoma City, Okla.; W. Robert Ming, Washington, D.C.; and Alderman Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago.

Officials Blamed
The blame for the jim crow policies existing in the Army Navy and Air Corps of the government were placed squarely on the shoulders of the officials of the various departments last week by Dr. Rayford Logan of Howard university, when he rapped the Army and Navy officials in their discriminatory practices in his testimony before the House military Affairs committee at the hearing on the Burke Wadsworth draft measure. Dr. Logan pointed out to the committee that government officials are ignoring Public Law Number 18 which was enacted in 1939 when they discriminate against Negroes in certain branches of the nation's armed forces.

Attorney Charles Houston, counsel for the N. A. A. C. P., condemned the segregation policies existing in the military branches of the government when he appeared before the House committee and told the members that Negroes want some of the democracy they fought for in 1917. He pointed out that hemisphere defense necessitates the admission of Negroes in all of the defense units of the country.

Vandenberg Speaks
Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan took the fight of the Negro to the Senate floor in a debate against the draft bill. "Of what is the war department afraid that makes it handle the Negro military problem with such delicacy and precision, refusing to obey the mandates of congress as

The Hope of The Race

SEP 21 1940

No matter how desperately the New Dealers may desire to do so there is absolutely no political significance to be attached to the White House announcement that additional branches of the nation's defense forces are to be opened to colored Americans. At the behest of colored organizations the Congress of the United States outlawed the discrimination which sent the majority of colored soldiers into labor units regardless of any qualification they might possess for other service. Had the President broken his two-term silence on Negro affairs at any time prior to the passage of that legislation, that utterance might now be a bright feather in his campaign cap. But coming now it amounts to little more than an announcement of the plan to carry out the mandate of Congress. Any attempt to magnify it into a statement of greater import will be futile. *Wash. N.C.*

Nor is such an attempt likely to deceive the colored voter who is becoming increasingly alert to campaign propaganda. Bitter experience has made him naturally skeptical of the pledges and promises of those seeking public office via the ballot box. Certainly he can have no faith in the good intentions of a candidate who has pursued a policy of silence and indifference during eight long years in public office. As the past is his only logical index as to what a third term may hold for him, the Negro finds his hope for an integration in the life of the nation definitely blasted.

He turns them to the Republican candidate for President. Wendell Willkie has no record in public office to overcome. His worst political enemy has yet to recall anything in his private life detrimental to the welfare of the Negro. No candidate for high office has ever matched the candor of his expressions on every phase of the race question.

From the campaign rostrum he has denounced lynching. He has declared against all forms of discrimination based on race and religion. At the risk of losing votes he renounced the support of the Coughlinites, whose organization might well

have been considered an asset by a less conscientious candidate. But Willkie has no desire to gain the Presidency at the sacrifice of those beliefs and principles which he considers fundamental to the American way and basic precepts of his personal code.

Thus at Chicago he reaffirmed the stand he has taken consistently since the day preceding his nomination. The occasion was the opportunity for him to go into greater detail. He pledged himself to continue relief for the needy and to provide increased opportunity for employment in industry and in the federal departments.

All in all the Chicago speech has confirmed the growing opinion that Willkie is the hope of the Negro. Thousands formerly undecided will find in that speech the most forceful argument to VOTE FOR WENDELL WILLKIE.

ATTACKS ARMY PRACTICE

Last week the Senate added an amendment to the conscription bill that when men entered the service voluntarily, there should be no discrimination on the basis of color or creed. The compulsory portion of the bill needed no such guarantee as in the draft it is presumed that every man who falls in the class would be subject to call.

It is rather interesting to read in the Congressional Record the debate preceding the passage of the amendment for in most instances, southern senators who claim to know the Negro best, appeared to know so little about his relations with the army and navy. *Bystander*

For instance, Senator Hill of Alabama, an opponent of the amendment said:

"Such a development, may seriously cripple the forces of the United States in what may be a critical era", and that the War Department is opposed to it. No one that I know of has ever charged or has ever found that the War Department or any officer acting for the War Department has in any way discriminated or has

in any way engaged in any discriminations against anyone on account of race or color. . . Why put this unnecessary amendment in the Bill itself? It would simply invite trouble. We would be doing that which the War Department does not want done"

The Senator has been in congress for several years, is a lawyer of wide experience and it does appear that a party of such prominence would not be so ignorant; in fact this was just about the tone of every senator from the south who spoke on the subject. Of course social equality had its part besides.

It is a matter of common knowledge that Negroes are discriminated against in the army and even more so in the navy. They are denied admission altogether to several branches of the service and prevented from getting promotions in others. Just how far this amendment will get us is hard to say. Light has been shed on this pernicious practice and of course this assures some improvement in the situation.

Won't Tolerate Jim Crow In New York Draft Area

NEW YORK. — Following a protest sent to Governor Herbert Lehman by Dean William Pickens, director of NAACP branches, it was announced at Selective Service Headquarters here that no segregation to Negro draftees who apply either at Harlem Hospital or at the Lutheran Hospital for examination. *Wash. Tribune*

Dean Pickens, who is a member of the New York State draft appeals board, said he had received complaints that all Negroes in the Harlem or adjacent areas had been assigned to Harlem Hospital, while all whites in this area were assigned to the Lutheran Hospital. *Wash. D.C.*

A special notice, advising officials in the New York area of the complaint and also the rule to be followed, was sent out, following receipt of Dean Pickens' complaint.

NEGRO SEEKS HIS PLACE IN NAT'L DEFENSE

Charge Wholesale Discrimination

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 12. — "From the man-power angle the largest defense headache ahead of the United States Government is likely to be the status of that 10 per cent of our population which is Negro. 'The Negro insists upon doing his part, and the Army and Navy want none of him,' writes Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in the current issue of The Saturday Evening Post.

Charges Wholesale Discrimination Charging wholesale discriminations in both the military and industrial defense services, White says that national Negro organizations such as his own have accumulated files full of case records and put the problem in the No. 1 position on their fighting agenda.

Citing the unsuccessful efforts that have been made to date, Mr. White states, "... the Negroes' fight for the right to fight has only started. It will continue till, all along the line, Negroes receive their fair share in the task of national defense."

Cites Valor in Past Wars In championing his cause via one of America's largest five-cent weekly magazine, Mr. White points out the valor and courage of Negro troops in past wars and the physical fitness and intelligence of his race.

Dr. Wesley Hits Exclusion of Race From U.S. Forces

DEC 28 1940 In spite of the Thirteenth Amendment and its message of freedom, the Negro's right to a stake in American democracy is challenged, by an economic servitude based upon low wages and the indifference of trade unionism, Dr. Charles

H. Wesley, head of the department of history at Howard University, declared Wednesday in an address on "The Thirteenth Amendment—A Milestone in the Emancipation of the Negro."

Speaking of the Negro's part in the Civil War, the historian stated: "More than 178,000 Negroes shouldered the musket and 150,000 of them were in the Quartermasters' Corps. There were 141 companies of Infantry, seven of Cavalry, twelve of heavy artillery and one of light artillery."

"What a challenge the deeds of these soldiers were to men who championed their cause! They demonstrated that they were worthy to be free. What an indictment their deeds become to those who would keep Negroes out of the Army and Navy today or restrict them to certain branches of these services."

Dr. Wesley delivered his address in Founder's Library at Howard University in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Proclamation of the Adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

— Oversize classes handicap pupils —

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940

DISCRIMINATION

THE INDUSTRIAL DEFENSE ARMY

SEP 21 1940
It has been estimated that for every soldier on the firing line, seven are needed behind the line to keep him supplied with food, clothing, shelter, arms and ammunition.

So the industrial defense army must of necessity be several times larger than the actual fighting army.

We have already discussed every angle of the color discrimination against Negroes in the United States Army, Navy and Marine Corps, to say nothing of the National Guard.

We have sponsored legislation aimed to rid the Army and Navy of this incubus of Negrophobia, and a little of it has been adopted.

As a result of the long campaign waged by The Pittsburgh Courier, we now have Negro anti-aircraft, engineer and field artillery units where none before existed.

But equally if not more important than the fight to end color discrimination in the Army and Navy, is the fight to banish color discrimination from the vast industrial defense army.

Some fifteen billion dollars are being spent to make this nation the mightiest military and naval power in the world.

This means battleships, cruisers, submarines, artillery, airplanes, machine guns, tanks, rifles, pistols, uniforms, tents, blankets, shoes, mess kits, hats, underwear, raincoats, stockings, gunpowder, gas, flame throwers and a thousand other items to manufacture.

Contracts have been let to scores of businesses from the Atlantic to the Pacific to begin turning out this vast equipment.

This work will be done by the millions in our industrial reserve army who will be well paid for it out of the public treasury to which we all equally contribute.

There is color discrimination, segregation and jim crowism rampant in that industrial defense army.

In the majority of the plants working on these military orders, no Negroes are admitted for any purpose, least of all to work.

Dozens of the unions working on these defense orders do not admit Negroes to their ranks, and scores of the employers are equally adamant about giving Negroes jobs, no matter how much these bosses may cheer Marian Anderson and Joe Louis.

The Negro is largely shut out of this industrial defense army and will continue to be until he organizes effectively to fight the system along the whole front, against both Labor and Capital, and against prejudiced government officials as well.

This calls for intelligent and militant organization for that purpose in every Negro community under responsible leadership, and the sooner it is done, the sooner will we see the Negro payroll grow.

'Defense' Industries, Getting Billions

For War, Tell Negroes No Jobs for You

SEP 20 1940

By Lawrence Emery

Last week the Negro people on the West Coast were proud. They hailed young William A. Dickerson, of Bakersfield, Calif., as the first Negro locally ever to complete a course of training in aircraft metal work.

The Negro community's elation rose when the San Diego Consolidated Aircraft Co. made an offer of employment to all the students of the Bakersfield Junior College who had completed the course.

Their joy was shortlived. Young Dickerson received this curt notice from the company when he answered the offer: "No Negroes Accepted."

That blunt and brutal barrier stands erected against Negro workers all over the country today as billions of dollars of public funds are pouring into private industry in the vast program of "national defense."

The Negro worker is as thoroughly excluded from this program and any of its benefits as he is from the "white section" of a street car in any jim-crow town of the deep South.

Gaffney, S. C. Ledger
November 30, 1940

Discrimination In Selective Service Is Protested By Pickens

DEC 14 1940

NEW YORK CITY—(ANP)—On November 19, Dean William Pickens acting in the capacity of director of branches of the NAACP, addressed a letter to Gov. Lehman and Col. McDermott, director of selective service, protesting an order telephoned from Col. McDermott's office pertaining to draft hospital examinations. According to Dean Pickens, the telephone message was sent to draft card No. 58, of which he was secretary, instructing the board to send its colored men for examinations to Harlem hospital and its white men to the Lutheran hospital.

A reply to Pickens written by Campbell C. Johnson, colored executive assistant to the selective service system, stated that Col. McDermott said there is no basis for the charge

Gets Beating For Asking About Enlisting In Army

NEW YORK—In a note sent to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson this week, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People launched a vigorous protest over the violent treatment accorded a Negro teacher by officials in a Charlotte, N. C., army recruiting office, when he sought to obtain information about the enlistment of Negroes in the army.

According to the NAACP, Edward H. Brown, a teacher at a local Negro high school in Charlotte, sought to find out why several of his former pupils had been denied an opportunity to enlist in the army at the local recruiting station, situated in the Charlotte, N. C., post office. His refusal to accept the statement that "No more N—ers were being accepted," without further explanation, brought him a severe beating at the hands of the local recruiting men.

Negroes Are Allowed To Enlist, After Dark

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
December 29, 1940

Navy 'Jim-Crow'

SAVANNAH, Ga., Aug. 15—Word has been received here at army recruiting headquarters that enlistments for an unlimited number of applicants for service with the 41st Engineer regiment at Camp Jackson will be accepted, starting August 15.

The order was received from Fourth Corps Area headquarters.

Negroes who wish to enlist are advised to call between 7 and 11 o'clock in the evening as the recruiting office will be busy with white applicants during the daytime.

of discrimination against Negro registrants.

Explaining further, Col. McDermott said: "The medical advisory board serving the areas in which Pickens complains that the alleged discrimina-

To The News and Courier:
The United States navy has just fired thirteen colored mess-men for exposing the truth about the Navy's "jim-crow" policy. Negroes can serve only as mess and chambermaids in the United States navy. How can American democracy and defense expect to command the respect of their enemies when they show so little self-respect?

Verily, negroes are the test-tubes of Democracy!

Protestingly,
JAS. T. ROGERS.

Pickens.

WAY DOWN SOUTH in New York: "Forty-eight of the Bronx's fifty-four candidates who were processed last night too late for camp spent the night in the Concourse Plaza Hotel. The six others, Negroes, went to the Harlem Branch of the YMCA." —From a story about draftees in the World-Telegram, November 28.

Drive To Include All World Branches

atlanta, Ga.
White Says Group

Must Share Jobs

In Huge Outlay

SEP 24 1940

NEW YORK—Continuing vigorous fight against job discrimination suffered by Negroes who have been refused employment in the plants to which federal contracts under the national defense program, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People yesterday sent its branches throughout the country a second list of firms whose Army and Navy contracts have been cleared by the production division of the National Defense Advisory Commission.

The list includes the names of sixty-seven firms in nineteen states whose contracts were okayed by the advisory commission between July 18 and 27. The first list, sent to branches of the organization August 16 when the job campaign was launched, contained the names of 163 firms whose contracts with the Government were cleared between June 6 and July 17.

GUIDE FOR ACTION

In a letter containing a guide for action, which was sent out with the list, Walter White, executive secretary of the association said:

"Congress has appropriated to date approximately twenty-billion dollars for National Defense. We, as Negroes, should have our proportionate share of the jobs which will be created in fulfilling these contracts, the cost of which we will pay. We have been shocked at the extent of discrimination against Negroes in the past. Only persistent, sustained action by us can reduce and wipe out this discrimination."

The campaign guide calls for setting up branch steering committees whos job it will be to organize delegations to visit plant managers

in their area to urge the employment of Negroes in skilled as well as unskilled jobs, launch a local educational drive among workers to get them to apply for jobs, and secure affidavits from workers who have been refused employment. The association has also sent out a questionnaire to its branches for use in interviewing plant managers to secure the facts regarding employment policies in the hiring of Negroes.

TO GIVE INFORMATION

The educational phase of the campaign, White said in the letter, includes a program of disseminating among church, civic, fraternal and youth groups concerning the federal government's operation of apprenticeship schools and courses in vocational training for the purpose of providing skilled workers

who have been refused employment in the plants to which federal contracts have been given. In order to get the maximum support behind the program, NAACP branches have been urged to work closely with industrial service organizations, labor unions and other bonafide organizations in their communities.

The association also called upon organizations interested in working in the job campaign to get in touch with the NAACP national headquarters at 69 Fifth Avenue New York.

NEGROES MUST BE INTEGRATED INTO ARMED FORCES

Planning Commission to Present Program to F. D. R., & Cabinet Heads

LOG CABIN CENTER, Ga. — A demand to share in the national defense program on equal basis with other Americans was made by more than 100 Southern Negro leaders Saturday in session here.

The representatives, composed of persons prominent in college, fraternal, business, and farm activities of several Southern States, planned to lay out a detailed program by which they think the race may best be coordinated into defense industry and "front fighting" service.

This will be submitted to President Roosevelt and the Secretaries of War, Navy and Agriculture. Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, of Savannah, Ga., chairman of the State Central Planning Commission, declared before the body that Negroes should be "more thoroughly co-ordinated" into the defense program.

Would Aid Economy

Such co-ordination would materially assist in raising the economic level of approximately 14,000,000 Negroes in the nation, he said.

Dr. Hubert asserted the commission proposed to seek military training for all Negro high schools and land grant colleges and to enlarge facilities of vocational training in metal work, mechanics and carpentry.

The commission outlined a proposal that Negroes be allowed to serve in all phases of combat service, such as Army, Navy and Air Corps, as well as "behind the lines in labor battalions."

It said service representation according to population would allow for about 10 per cent. Commission members said pre-service training should be greatly increased for Negro youth.

Demand Recognition

"We love our country. We stand ready to defend her. We want to serve in the Army, in the Navy and in the air as valiantly as we have served in the cotton patches and on the railroad tracks," declared John Wesley Dobbs, Atlanta businessman.

Dr. L. A. Pinkston of Augusta, Ga., head of the State Baptist Convention, asserted the commission should favor compulsory military training and insist that Negroes be given a "fair share" in the conscription.

"If we are going to be drafted for service we want to be trained for that service just as the white man is trained," he asserted.

Dr. Hubert pointed out that additional training should be provided Negroes in agricultural pursuits so that they might be afforded advanced scientific learning to produce efficiently foodstuffs as "the backbone of all national defense."

"If Negroes are only given the opportunity," he declared, "we will create new opportunities for white people."

A STORM is brewing among Negro groups over the army's rejection of Negro applicants for the United States air corps. Numbers of Negroes have kept applying, though they are always rejected in accordance with the army's long-standing Jim Crow policy. The conscription debate has given new life to the campaign against the ban.

KILLING DEMOCRACY

ON THE FRONT page of last week's issue was a true story, captioned "The Captain Just Shrugged," in which Lou Layne, a capable writer, revealed his experience when he went down to the United States Army recruiting service at 39 Whitehall street to enlist in the armed forces of the nation.

The story is really a revelation of what one Negro thinks when he is refused the opportunity to enlist in the army along with all other citizens of the United States.

This may be a family newspaper but sometimes it is necessary to use strong language. If a Negro is not good enough to enlist in the army, why in hell should he be conscripted?

Unless the prejudice-ridden War Department changes its policy regarding Negroes, it will kill all desire on the part of Negroes to exercise their patriotic duty of fighting for this country.

There is a sure way to kill democracy and the War Department seems to have found that way.

SEEK PROPORTIONATE ARMY REPRESENTATION

Negroes Ask Prohibition of Discrimination in Defense Industry.

Hampton, Va., Nov. 27.—Representation for negroes in the United States army in proportion to their population, a prohibition against racial discrimination by industries holding defense contracts and more extensive training for the skilled crafts were key recommendations today from a national conference on negro participation in national defense.

The concluding session of the meeting at Hampton Institute also received recommendations from a section on military and naval defense "that the exclusion policy of the Marine Corps and the limitation on negroes in the navy be abolished and that the enlistment and recruiting of negroes in the navy and marine corps with full opportunity to achieve all ranks and functions in all branches and services be instituted."

The report of the military committee said the navy and marine corps "represent the most undemocratic and un-American aspect of our government."

The findings of the conference will be communicated to President Roosevelt at his request, for the information of those administering the national defense program. Representatives of most of the negro colleges in the United States, spokesmen for government agencies, white educators and sociologists helped formulate the report.

It was recommended also that the war department undertake immediately the establishment of a negro military air school; that negro line officers and professionals be assigned to the four regular negro army regiments; that immediate steps be taken to train additional negro reserve officers; that negroes be nominated for the naval and military academies and be assured of "equal opportunity" there and that the selective service organization integrate negroes where such is not now the case.

Race Spokesmen Would Approve Draft If Safeguards Included

Amendments Eliminating Bias Needed To Make Conscription Bill Satisfactory to the newspaper.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Requests of colored people for a larger share in the national defense program were declared to be reasonable by members of the House Military Affairs Committee during hearings on the Burke-Wadsworth Selective Service bill last week.

Both Charles H. Houston, a lawyer, representing a weekly newspaper, and Rayford W. Logan, chairman of the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program, endorsed in principle the Burke-Wadsworth bill with the modification proposed by Dr. Logan's committee.

WOULD HALT JIM CROW

The amendment suggested by Dr. Logan would prohibit racial discrimination in the selection and training of men under a compulsory military service law, if Congress should enact such a measure.

When Dr. Logan had finished reading his prepared statement, Representative Andrew J. May, of Kentucky, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, pointed out to him that he had outlined the position of his organization with respect to participation of colored people in the national defense program and ask him point-blank:

"What is your position on the Burke-Wadsworth bill?"

SUPPORTS BILL

"Our committee," Dr. Logan replied, "supports the bill with the modification we are asking."

A similar question asked Mr. Houston by Chairman May resulted in a similar answer. He stated that failure of the

During the question of Dr. Logan and Mr. Houston several members commended their positions. They especially noted that neither witness asked for exemption for colored people from the terms of the Burke-Wadsworth bill and remarked that they stood in contrast with a number of white persons who had appeared before the committee.

"Thousands of your race would like to enlist in the Army, if the Army would take them," said one member. "Has the Army any reason to advance for its refusal to accept Negroes in the National Defense Program, or is it due to racial prejudice?"

Dr. Logan had criticized the War Department for failing to carry out the provisions of that amendment by accepting colored youths as flying cadets and sending them to the Chicago School of Aeronautics at Glenview, Ill. for training.

Chairman May said he was a member of the conference committee which had worked out that amendment and he was sure flying, training would be provided for colored youths.

QUOTES MARSHALL

At that point Dr. Logan read into the record the recent statement of General Marshall before the House Subcommittees that there was no such thing as colored aviation and that the place for colored youths to begin learning to fly was under the program of the Civil Aeronautics Authority.

Mr. Houston took up the discussion where Dr. Logan had left off. He stated that failure of the

Army to put any colored Reserve officers on extended duty with the Regular Army was due to racial prejudice.

Pointing out that he had been a field artillery officer in the First World War, Mr. Houston said he had never applied for a commission in the organized Reserves because of his bitter experiences in the American Expeditionary Force.

WANT NEGRO OFFICERS

Asked by Chairman May his position on the Burke-Wadsworth bill, Mr. Houston quickly replied that he favored it, but he added that "we want Negro officers with Negro troops." Mr. May conceded that his request was reasonable.

With respect to the policy of Western Hemispheric defense, Mr. Houston pointed out that "the Negro minority in the United States is a colored majority in the Western Hemisphere" and in the light of this the United States would have to reexamine its whole position on the color question.

Dr. Logan and Mr. Houston followed Colonel Frank Knox, the Secretary of the Navy, to the stand. Inasmuch as members of the House Military Affairs Committee were due on the floor of the House at noon to take part in the debate on the National Guard Mobilization Bill, they were pressed for time. Mr. Houston was given leave to extend his remarks in the record.

Arrangements for the appearance of Dr. Logan and Mr. Houston before the committee were made by Representative Charles I. Faddis, Democrat, of Pennsylvania.

At the request of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Senator Warren Barbour, of New Jersey, said this week that he would introduce an amendment to the Burke-Wadsworth Conscription Bill, prohibiting discrimination against Negroes in any part of the armed forces.

THIS IS THE BUNK If You Are Colored



By ELI COLEMAN

BALTIMORE—"Join the West Point of the Air; receive \$75 per month while in training, and upon completion of the course, graduate as a Commissioned Second Grade Lieutenant in the Air Reserve."

That is the way the ad read, and most interestingly to me, because I had long nursed dreams of being a commercial air pilot and some day own my own plane. But most of all, I wanted to fly one of Uncle Sam's planes, one of those shiny, silvery types that seem to speed through the air like a bullet from a high-powered gun.

"It Can't Happen Here"

Apparently it can't happen here, that is, not now. After going to the U. S. Recruiting Office to answer the ad, I learned they wanted white men. Twice I went to the office in the basement of the Hearst Tower Building, and twice I was told that there were

no vacancies of any kind for colored men.

I am 25 years of age; five feet nine inches tall; weighing 145 pounds; single, perfect character record, and am a graduate of Tennessee State College. Consequently, I felt that I was perfectly qualified to become a government air pilot. The thought never occurred to me that my color would be such a handicap to me. But it was.

My first attempt to volunteer, and for a three-year-period too, was the most disheartening. As I walked into the office, a recruiting officer was trying to persuade a white youth to enlist in the same branch of service that I was interested in.

The officer explained the possibilities of entering the commercial field in time of peace,

Several weeks later I returned, particularly because an article in the daily newspaper stated that 108 vacancies existed in the air corps. The answer to my query on enlisting was the same as before, with one exception.

newspaper articles citing the need for recruits, he said those releases must have come from Washington as he knew nothing about them. Rushing off to attend to some other business, he repeated that there were no vacancies for colored men and that I might come back at another time.

and this was my secondary reason for wanting to enlist. Bear in mind, I was not attempting to dodge the draft, either. Overwhelmed with Anticipation

I was overwhelmed with fond hopes and anticipation as I listened to the officer, stressing various phases of the course such as

"Slightly Embarrassed"

"The recruiting officer did appear to be slightly embarrassed when I asked him if it were nec-

OCT 19 1940

Race Spokesmen Would Approve Draft If Safeguards Included

Amendments Eliminating Bias Needed To Make Conscription Bill Satisfactory

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Requests of colored people for a larger share in the national defense program were declared to be reasonable by members of the House Military Affairs Committee during hearings on the Burke-Wadsworth Selective Service bill last week.

Both Charles H. Houston, a lawyer, representing a weekly newspaper, and Rayford W. Logan, chairman of the Committee on National Defense Program, endorsed in principle the Burke-Wadsworth bill with the modification proposed by Dr. Logan's committee.

WOULD HALT JIM CROW

The amendment suggested by Dr. Logan would prohibit racial discrimination in the selection and training of men under a compulsory military service law, if Congress should enact such a measure.

When Dr. Logan had finished reading his prepared statement, Representative Andrew J. May, of Kentucky, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, pointed out to him that he had outlined the position of his organization with respect to participation of colored people in the national defense program and ask him pointing blank:

"What is your position on the Burke-Wadsworth bill?"

SUPPORTS BILL

"Our committee," Dr. Logan replied, "supports the bill with the modification we are asking."

A similar question asked Houston by Chairman May resulted in a similar answer.

During the question of Dr. Logan and Mr. Houston several members commended their positions. They especially noted that neither witness asked for exemption for colored people from the terms of the Burke-Wadsworth bill and remarked that they stood in contrast with a number of white persons who had appeared before the committee.

"Thousands of your race would like to enlist in the Army, if the Army would take them," said one chairman of the Committee on National Defense Program, "Has the Army any participation of Negroes in the reason to advance for its refusal?" Before Dr. Logan could answer the question, Chairman May interposed, stating that General George C. Marshall, the Chief of Staff, had told him when an amendment to the Army Expansion Bill of 1939 was being worked out that several colored units would be established.

Dr. Logan had criticized the War Department for failing to carry out the provisions of that amendment by accepting colored youths as flying cadets and sending them to the Chicago School of Aeronautics at Glenview, Ill. for training.

Chairman May said he was a member of the conference committee which had worked out that amendment and he was sure flying training would be provided colored youths.

QUOTES MARSHALL

At that point Dr. Logan read into the record the recent statement of General Marshall before the House Subcommittee that there was no such thing as colored aviation and that the place for colored youths to begin learning to fly was under the program of the Civil Aeronautics Authority. Mr. Houston took up the discussion where Dr. Logan had left off. He stated that failure of the

Army to put any colored Reserve officers on extended duty with the Regular Army was due to racial prejudice.

Pointing out that he had been a field artillery officer in the First World War, Mr. Houston said he had never applied for a commission in the organized Reserves because of his bitter experiences in the American Expeditionary Force.

WANT NEGRO OFFICERS

Asked by Chairman May his position on the Burke-Wadsworth bill, Mr. Houston quickly replied that he favored it, but he added that "we want Negro officers with Negro troops." Mr. May conceded that his request was reasonable.

With respect to "the policy of Western Hemisphere defense," Mr. Houston pointed out that "the Negro minority in the United States is a colored majority in the Western Hemisphere" and in the light of this the United States would have to reexamine its whole position on the color question.

Dr. Logan and Mr. Houston followed Colonel Frank Knox, the Secretary of the Navy, to the stand. Inasmuch as members of the House Military Affairs Committee were due on the floor of the House at noon to take part in the debate on the National Guard Mobilization Bill, they were pressed for time. Mr. Houston was given leave to extend his remarks in the record.

Arrangements for the appearance of Dr. Logan and Mr. Houston before the committee were made by Representative Charles I. Faddis, Democrat, of Pennsylvania.

At the request of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Senator Warren Barbour, of New Jersey, said this week that he would introduce an amendment to the Burke-Wadsworth Conscription Bill, prohibiting discrimination against Negroes in any part of the armed forces.

THIS IS THE BUNK
If You Are Colored



By ELI COLEMAN

BALTIMORE—"Join the West Point of the Air; receive \$75 per month while in training, and upon completion of the course, graduate as a Commissioned Second Grade Lieutenant in the Air Reserve."

That is the way the advertisement read, and most interestingly to me, because I had long nursed dreams of being a commercial air pilot and

some of my own plans. But most of all, I wanted to fly one of those Sam's planes, one of those shiny, silvery types that seem to speed through the air like a bullet from a high-powered gun.

"It Can't Happen Here" Apparently it can't happen here, that is, not now. After going to the U. S. Recruiting Office to answer the ad, I learned they wanted white men. Twice I went to the office in the basement of the Hearst Tower Building, and twice I was told that there were

newspaper articles citing the need for recruits, he said those releases must have come from Washington as he knew nothing about them. Rushing off to attend to some other business, he repeated that there were no vacancies for colored men and that I might come back at another time.

Several weeks later—I returned, particularly because an article in the daily newspaper stated that 108 vacancies existed in the air corps. The answer to my query on enlisting was the same as before, with one exception.

"Slightly Embarrassed"

"The recruiting officer did appear to be slightly embarrassed when I asked him if it were nec-

parachute rigging, aeronautical engineering, radio technology, etc. When the white youth left with a handful of pamphlets, I felt certain that I would be as fortunate as he. But this is the way the officer approached me:

"So you want to enlist, eh? Well, we have no vacancies for Negroes."

When I referred to the

I was overwhelmed with fond hopes and anticipation as I listened to the officer, stressing various phases of the course such as

essary to have provision for colored would-be fliers since the article did not refer to any race. "Why yes, there just has to be provisions," he said, but at the same time admitted he could advance no reason for it. Dejected, I left, reading a pamphlet entitled 'Wings over America.' It should have read, 'White Wings over America.'

Urge Officials Tell War Dept. Either Drop Jim Crow Or Make It Complete

OCT 26 1940

WASHINGTON — Disclosing a plan whereby the proposed and continued segregation of Negroes in the army and the barriers against them in the navy would be made more complete, yet more serviceable to Negroes, Edgar G. Brown of the United Government Employees, at a meeting of his organization Sunday, heard his body unanimously adopt resolutions which are to be forwarded government officials and widely circulated.

Asking for several full divisions of Negroes, instead of regiments and individual units attached to

white organizations and officered by white officials, the resolutions adopted demand that the entire personnel of these units comprise race members with Race major generals, colonels and majors.

This innovation will prove a bombshell to the war department, which through the President has announced that there will be continued segregation in the army despite protests and petitions to the contrary.

Previous conferences had indicated a willingness on the part of the conferees to accept the jim crow setup on the army and the present resolutions furthers that plan by demanding a complete jim crow setup with promotions for the non-commissioned officers of the present regiments.

Asks Training Center

Promotions for these men would indicate a competent staff of officers, many of whom have long terms of service to their credit.

Other than the war department plans, the resolution is asking for a change in the naval department as well.

Since, the resolution points out, there is no possibility for the training of Negroes at Annapolis, a new training

station could be developed in the Virgin Islands, where 90 per cent of the population is colored, for this purpose.

These men thus trained would be assigned to a complete Negro division of the navy, including battleship, cruiser, destroyers, subs, airplane carriers and auxiliary vessels for supply and hospitalization.

Training at this point is also suggested for the air corps where a splendid aviation base could be developed.

With the building of this base at Saint Thomas in the Virgin Islands, there would be another link in the defense of the Panama canal, with an entire personnel of American citizens.

"We present for immediate consideration," the resolution continues, "the names of distinguished Negro citizens who would give assurance to 12,000,000, 100 per cent Americans of color that their inalienable and just rights would at all times be represented and intelligently insisted upon."

"Dr. J. E. Walker, president of the National Negro Business league, Members of this Race major generals, colonels and majors.

"Dr. Emmett J. Scott, former secretary-treasurer of Howard university, to serve as special assistant to secretary of navy.

"Atty. Charles E. Houston, special counsel of the N.A.A.C.P., member of the President's National Defense Advisory committee.

"Dr. Frederick Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute, as special assistant to U. S. Commissioner of Education.

"G. N. T. Gray, welfare officer of the National Alliance of Postal Employees, to serve as special assistant to U. S. Civil Service commission.

"Judge Herman E. Moore, federal judge in the Virgin Islands, to serve as special assistant to judge advocate general of the war department.

"Bishop R. R. Wright, Jr., African Methodist Episcopal church, to serve as special assistant to chief of army chaplains.

"Dr. J. N. Vaughn, president of National Medical association, to serve as special assistant to army and navy surgeon general.

"Rev. L. K. Williams, president of the National Baptist convention, to serve as special assistant to navy chaplain.

"Col. B. O. Davis, to serve as special assistant to Gen. George Marshall, chief of staff, U. S. army."

Copies of the resolution were ordered sent to the President of the United States, secretary of war and navy; chief of staff of the army; chief of naval operations; National Defense committee; commissioner of education; chief of chaplains, surgeon general of the army and navy and other influential persons.

IT MUST HAVE JIM CROW IN ARMY, MAKE IT COMPLETE: UGE

OCT 27 1940

Jim crow in the armed forces would be more complete, and consequently more advantageous to Negroes if the war department set up full divisions of Negroes, instead of regiments and individual units attached to white organizations, and officered by whites, and built a battleship, a cruiser, a submarine, a destroyer and an airplane carrier, to be manned and officered by Negroes.

This was contained in a resolution adopted by the United Government Employees, an organization which boasts of 30,000 members and which is headed by Edgar G. Brown of Washington, at their convention in the capitol city last week.

Want An "Annapolis"

The resolution further urged that an "Annapolis" for training Negro navy and air personnel be established at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, and that Negro noncommissioned officers of the 9th, 10th, 24th and 25th regular army regiments be given opportunity to receive commissions.

Other requests were to the effect that special Negro counselors and administrative assistants be appointed to help the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the National Defense Advisory Commission, the Commissioner of Education, the Civil Service Commission, the Chief of

Organized Labor Approves Policy Of Defense Non-Discrimination

WORD comes from the Labor Division for the National Defense Advisory Commission that both the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. have assured the Labor Commissioner that the Commission's non-discrimination labor policy stipulation will be observed by these two influential labor organizations. Under this policy, workers are not to be discriminated against "because of age, sex, race or color."

Whether this policy will survive the emergency which gave rise to the birth of the National Defense Advisory Commission, only the future can tell. OCT 31 1940

Of this we are sure, however: that the right of colored workers to be gainfully employed at the kind of work for which they are best fitted is one of the most important planks in the platform of the American way of life; and sooner or later organized labor must include within its ranks on an equal basis colored apprentices and skilled workmen, if organized labor is to attain its fullest growth and exercise its greatest influence.

WHITE RAPS AIR PLANE FACTORIES

NOV 23 1940

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 21—Walter White, executive secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., lashed airplane manufacturing plants and aeronautical heads here for their failure to employ Negroes in the manufacture of airplanes. Mr. White told an audience which numbered more than 3,000 at the Second Baptist Church here tonight, that Negroes should be given representation in aircraft works.

There was much concern over the welfare of Mr. White, who was scheduled to appear at the church Sunday afternoon. His plane was delayed 12 hours in Salt Lake City because of inclement weather. He didn't arrive in Los Angeles until late that evening. There were 3,000 people waiting for him in the auditorium of the church. He wired the reason of his delay and asked that they return the following evening. They did.

The great leader was a busy man after his arrival here. He immediately delivered an address in Pasadena, then back to Los Angeles. He spoke at the Jefferson High school and at Occidental College. He flew to San Francisco, returned here the next morning, had a conference with studio executives, then flew to San Diego and then to Bakersfield.

Army Policy Was Misinterpreted

President Expresses Regret to N.A.A.C.P.

NOV 2 1940
The White House has expressed its regret that the statement of Army policy on Negroes, announced by it October 9, has been "misinterpreted."

This was the substance of a letter from President Roosevelt to Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. Secretary, and Philip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; and T. Arnold Hill. These men conferred with the President

the White House and the War Department, has been misunderstood."

NOV 2 1940
This sentence undoubtedly refers to the fact that some newspapers interpreted the October 9 statement of segregation as having been approved by the three colored conferees.

"The plan, as I understand it, on which we are all agreed, is that Negroes will be put into all branches of the service, combatant as well as supply. Arrangements are now being made to give, without delay, training in aviation to Negroes. Negro reserve officers will be called to active service and given appropriate commands. Negroes will be given the same opportunity to qualify for officers' commissions as will be given to others" the letter further said.

September 27 and the White House issued a statement of policy on October 9. In his letter, dated October 25, Mr. Roosevelt said: "I regret that your own position, as well as the attitude of both

LEARNS ORDER INTENDED FOR 'WHITES ONLY'

Gross Discrimination In Armed Forces Looms In Detroit

NOV 16 1940
DETROIT.—(ANP)—Another case of gross discrimination against Negroes by United States army officials in connection with the armed forces of the country came to the fore here Monday when James H. Gray Jr. was refused admittance to the United States Army Air corps after having received an order to report.

Young Gray, who had enlisted at the federal building here as soon as the bars were supposedly let down to admit Negroes, was awaiting the call to enter the services of his country. On October 24 he received that call, the order being signed by Lieut. Col. Joseph L. Bachus, in charge of enlistments. Gray was to see service with the Sixth U. S. Army Air corps, to be taken to Jefferson, Mo., for training along with 270 other Detroit boys. After training at the camp at Jefferson City, the entire group of 2,000 men from the Sixth area was to leave for Hawaii for duty there.

But on entering the recruiting office, jubilant because he was en-

tering his preferred branch of the service, Mr. Gray was politely informed that the order meant only white men and there "had been some mistake." They made the bluff of trying to determine how the gross mistake was made and who made it.

Several months ago, Gray, 20, a high school graduate, tried to enlist and they gave him the run-around by referring him to the Twenty-fifth infantry, to which outfit he wrote only to be informed by that outfit that they were not taking recruits at that time.

CIVIL SERVICE CODE BARS DISCRIMINATION

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—A bar against racial discrimination in hiring Federal workers was written into civil service rules for the first time Wednesday in an order by President Roosevelt. The provision amended a section of the civil service rules which prohibits discrimination on political or religious grounds. The President's order, representing the first general revision of civil service rules since 1938, was issued to bring employment policies in line with defense needs.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
October 21, 1940

NEGRO UNION SUGGESTS A COLORED 'ANNAPOLIS'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20. (AP)—A meeting of the United Government Employees, which claims to represent 30,000 Negroes holding federal jobs approved today the army's plan to segregate Negro soldiers in Negro units "provided one or more divisions of the army shall be officered completely by Negro officers from major-general down."

The organization's resolution also conditioned its approval of segregation upon the navy's providing one battleship, cruiser, submarine, destroyer and aircraft carrier "to be eventually manned and officered by Negro sailors and to this end set up an 'Annapolis' for training such Negro navy and air pilot personnel at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands."

Columbia, S. C. State
November 27, 1940

Contracts Let Macon Camp Construction

Washington, Nov. 26.—(AP)—Four Atlanta, Ga., firms were awarded contracts today for construction of \$5,434,880 replacement center on the site of Camp Wheeler, World war training camp, near Macon, Ga.

Buildings for the center, where future draftees for the U. S. army will be given preliminary training, 16,000 at a time, will be erected by the Beers Construction company and the W. L. Cobb company, both of Atlanta, with Hentz, Adler and Shutze, associated with Newcomb and Boyd, retained architects.

The contract calls for construction of 272 barracks, 73 mess halls, 67 storehouses, 24 officers quarters, six officers' mess halls, 38 administration buildings, six guard houses, three fire stations and a 700-bed hospital.

Army plans call for infantry training to be given 15,000 white draftees and 1,500 Negroes. The replacement center will be on the site of Camp Wheeler, World war headquarters for the Thirty-first division.

The construction is to be paid for on a basis of cost plus a fixed fee for supervision and architectural services.

Augusta, Ga., Labor Review
November 29, 1940

Dr. R. C. Weaver Heads Negro Labor Section

Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Administrative Assistant in the Division of Labor Supply of the National Defense Advisory Commission, addressed a two-day conference on the Negro in National Defense held at Hampton Institute, Virginia, on November 25-26.

The conference, which followed immediately the inauguration services of President Malcolm S. MacLean as head of that institution, was attended by widely-known Negro and white authorities on military and naval defense, industry, labor, agriculture, health and housing.

Dr. Weaver, who lead a panel discussion on Industry and Labor, has been assigned by the National Defense Advisory Commission to the task of integrating Negroes into the training and industrial phases of the national defense program.

Progress in this task was noted recently when the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations both agreed to assume responsibility for seeing that Negro workers were not discriminated against in national defense employment. The agreement was reached as the result of a series of conferences between Sidney Hillman, Labor Commissioner of the NDAC; Dr. Weaver, and representatives of the two influential labor organizations.

In revealing the development to a recent conference of Urban League officials, Dr. Weaver said:

"One of the largest obstacles to securing equitable employment opportunities in the defense program has been the contention of employers that the introduction of Negro skilled and unskilled workers would lead to serious labor difficulties and reduce efficiency because of the retardment of white labor."

"This statement of policy adopted by the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations indicates that organized labor does not intend to be an impediment to increased occupational opportunities for Negroes. It reaffirms the statements repeatedly made by Negroes that the employment of colored workers will not occasion the type of difficulty indicated by employers."

Other leaders of the discussion group on Industry and Labor were Frederick E. Searle, Superintendent of the Ford Industrial School; Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Director of the Department of Social Science, Fisk University; George W. Goodman, Washington Urban League; Wiley A. Hall, Richmond Urban League; Lester B. Granger, National Urban League; Wm. J. Trent, Federal Works Agency; and Roy A. Ellis, Bureau of Employment Security.

Before his appointment to the Division of Labor Supply in the Administrative Assistant to the Administrator of the United States Housing Authority, in charge of the office of Racial Relations, he was an instructor in economics at the Agricultural and Technical College, Greensboro, N. C., before his appointment on the Economic Status of Negroes for the United States Department of the Interior, from which position he transferred to the United States Housing Authority.

EARLY "REGRETS" WASHINGTON JIM CROW ARMY Infernal INFERENCES

FDR'S Secretary Gives His Version of the Incident to NAACP
NOV 9 1940
NEW YORK—Expressing dismay over any part he may have played in permitting correspondents to interpret the President's October 9 announcement on army segregation as having the endorsement of Negro officials who conferred with the Chief Executive on September 27, Stephen T. Early, White House press secretary told the NAACP that he was "deeply regretful."

Early made the statement in a letter to Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, dated October 23, the date on which the President also sent a letter to the NAACP expressing regret "that there had been so much misinterpretation" of his announcement settling War Department policy regarding Negroes in the army.

The complete text of Early's letter follows:

"Since writing to you on October eighteenth, I have learned that certain newspapers have interpreted the White House statement of October ninth in a way that has caused embarrassment to you and your associates, Messrs. Randolph and Hill.

"My purpose in writing you at this time is to tell you as emphatically and as honestly as it is possible for any man to speak to another, there was no disposition or intention on my part, when I made the statement to the press, to cause you or your colleagues any embarrassment whatsoever.

"If the words I used have been interpreted by any newspaper writer in any way that embarrasses you or your associates, I am deeply regretful.

Cites Report
"As I told you in my letter of October eighteenth, the stenographer's report of my oral statement to the press, reads as follows: "You will remember that on

September 27th the President held a conference in his office with Walter White and I think, two other Negro leaders. Present at that conference also were the Secretary of Navy and the Assistant Secretary of War. The subject discussed at the conference and responsible for the conference was Negro participation in national defense.

"As a result of that conference the War Department has drafted a statement of policy with regard to Negroes in national defense. The statement of policy was submitted by Judge Patterson to the President, and today was approved by the President. The President's approval causes it to become or to be made immediately effective by the War Department. Here are the statements of policy.

"The meaning I intended to convey to the press—the meaning that most of the newspapermen present understood and used accordingly—in the new conscript army, was that, in all probability, there would have been no statement of policy with regard to Negroes in national defense had it not been for the conference you and your associates had with the President, the Secretary of the Navy and the Assistant Secretary of War on September 27th.

"In other words, when I used that language as a result of that conference the War Department has drafted a statement of policy, etc., I did not mean or intend to conveying the impression that the statement of policy had been approved by you and your associates but that it had come about because of the discussion that had been held.

"You will note that there is nothing in anything that I said could be used to indicate your approval of the policy or that either Mr. Hill or Mr. Randolph had given it their approval.

"As evidence that this is written to you in the best of faith I want you to know that I have told newspapermen to whom I spoke on October ninth how my statement to them has been misinterpreted by a part of the press. They also have been acquainted with the contents of this letter to you."

BEST EDITORIAL OF THE WEEK

NOV 22 1940
NEGRO SELF-RESPECT AND POLITICS

Thoughtful members of the Negro race cannot feel happy over the treatment accorded them during the recent campaign. Both major parties in their efforts to win the colored vote resorted to maneuvers which should have been regarded as an insult to the Negro's self-respect. The first obvious effort to spare the Negro vote came when President Roosevelt, disturbed by Negro anger at the announcement that members of the race would be segregated in the new conscript army, promoted Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to the rank of brigadier general. The promotion was a too long delayed recognition of the military abilities of colored soldiers. But time correctly appraised the political implication of the appointment by acidly remarking that the army would leave General Davis in nominal command of a paper force until he reaches retirement age next July, knowing that "by then the election will be over." However, the uproar which the Republicans, in their effort to find some means of offsetting the political effect of General Davis' promotion, raised at the reported roughing of a Negro policeman in New York by one of the President's secretaries was even more shameless in its political motivation. The episode itself was indefensible, if the press reported it accurately. But Republican leaders made spectacles of themselves in the apparent glee with which they tried to exaggerate it out of all proportion as a means of catching the Negro vote. The Negro is rapidly coming into a new political importance in the north. He may soon hold the balance of power in key cities and states. But this very growth of the importance of his vote should put leaders of the race on their guard against such crude attempts to exploit racial feeling as marred the recent campaign — THE

Ask Probe Of Vocational Training For Defense In Ala.

NOV 15 1940
New York—The United States Office of Education has been asked to investigate conditions affecting Negroes in vocational training for National Defense in Alabama, where it is charged that state and local administrators have refused to give such training to Negroes on the ground that industrial plants in their local communities refused to hire Negroes. The N. A. A. C. P. acted after receiving complaints from John B. LeFlore of Mobile, Alabama, chairman of the association's regional conference of southern branches. **COLUMBIA, S. C. Files**
December 4, 1940

Anti-Aircraft Center Cost to Be \$9,000,000

Washington, Dec. 3—(AP)—The war department disclosed today that the anti-aircraft firing center it will construct on the North Carolina coast near Wilmington would cost approximately \$9,000,000 and probably would be ready for occupancy about next March 15.

Construction will be on a scale contemplating a camp strength of approximately 20,000 men, the department said. Although the army previously had revealed plans for the center, which will be used by semi-mobile anti-aircraft regiments of the coast artillery, today's announcement was the first definite information as to the size of the undertaking. Representative Barden (D-NC), who with Representative Clark (D-NC) has co-operated with the war department in working out plans for development, said he was "very highly pleased." Clark was out of the city.

Arden said he understood also the Marine corps was interested in a similar project, probably in the same vicinity, and if one were established by that branch of the service it probably would be operated jointly with the Coast Artillery.

"Both services could use the same firing range," Barden explained. The war department said although the Coast Artillery project had been authorized, no contracts had yet been awarded. Details will be announced later, it said.

The department said the center

would be erected on leased land but only land sufficient in area for the cantonment proper would be leased. Firing will be over water on the adjacent coast-line, it was explained, making unnecessary the procurement of land for a firing range. The cantonment will include barracks, mess halls, lounging and recreational rooms, a service club, utility, administrative and service buildings and a temporary hospital. Provisions will be made to handle six white and two Negro regiments.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940

DISCRIMINATION

THEY DESCRIBE A MESS ATTENDANT'S DAY

W. P. Wilson, S. L. Dance, P. E. A. Kearney, W. P. Grandy and L. C. Rozar, mess attendants on another naval vessel, write in to describe a mess attendant's day. "We should be called housewives instead of mess attendants," they assert, and then write: "Our first duty in the morning is to make coffee just as one's family would do. From that we go about our daily work, such as shining shoes, making beds, cooking, serving and bell hopping and the like. We always get the tailing of the deal. On some of the ships, the boys have to wash these officers' clothes. Our chances here are not as you might think. We can't get ahead as they tell us when we enlist. We are only in one branch and that is the mess men. Our fellow white sailors can choose any trade that they like. The recruiting officers hand us a false bait."

One of the most forceful letters comes from Local 32H of the Building Service Employees International Union, written by J. Cyril Fullerton, executive manager. Mr. Fullerton writes: "This is to inform you that the officers and members of Local 32H of the Building Service Employees International Union are in full accord and sympathy with the stand taken by your paper, as set forth in the editorial, 'The Naval Disgrace,' in its November 16th issue."

"OUR MEMBERSHIP APPROXIMATELY 2000"

"Local 32H is comprised of Building Service Employees who reside and work in Harlem. Our membership approximates 2,000, of which more than ninety (90 per cent) are Negroes. You can, therefore, readily see that anything which affects the well-being of the Negro, not only in our immediate community, but in our country or in other countries, for that matter, is of direct interest to our organization. We feel as you do that jim-crowism when captioned by the lofty term, 'The American Way,' or race discrimination even when covered by the American flag to disguise its viciousness . . . stinks to the high heavens nonetheless."

"We are definitely united to lend your worthy paper every possible means of support in its drive against this outcropping of injustice which has now come to the surface in the United States Navy. We have one aim and that is to see that justice is secured for

the colored men in the Navy who are now being unjustly punished for demanding their rights as men and American citizens."

The above letters indicate that some organizations and individuals have already gone to work on this issue. But they need your help. Every lover of fair play who reads this article should immediately write his or her own protest to the President of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Navy. Frank Knox.

FAVOR SEGREGATION ON SPECIFIED TERMS

Washington, Oct. 21.—A meeting of the United Government Employees, which claims to represent 30,000 Negroes holding federal jobs, Sunday approved the army's plan to segregate Negro soldiers in Negro units "provided one of more divisions of the army shall be officered completely by Negro officers from major-general down."

The organization's resolution also conditioned its approval of segregation upon the navy's providing a battleship, cruiser, submarine, destroyer and aircraft carrier "to be eventually manned and officered by Negro sailors and to this end set up an 'Annapolis' for training such Negro navy air pilot personnel at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands."

WHAT THE PEOPLE THINK

Your Letter Will Stand Greater Chance of Publication If You Limit It to 200 Words or LESS.

CHARGES NAVAL OFFICER CURSED, BROWBEAT HIM

Dear Editor: DEC 21 1940

Please accept one more bit of evidence on naval discrimination against Negroes. I hope you fully understand the amount of courage my racial brothers of the U.S.S. Philadelphia must have had to start what many of us wanted but which we dreaded because of punishment.

Discrimination is rampant on most of the United States ships, but I am naming one special one from experience.

The first lieutenant of the U.S.S. New Orleans voiced what many of the officers only acted. His statements were as follows:

"You G— d— buzzards are not good for anything but to take up room on the ship. Now get the hell out in the ward room and make it look like a white man lives in it."

Another time, he roared: "G— d— it, if you don't like the Navy, why the hell don't you get out? We don't need you in the Navy. And that goes for all mess attendants."

This officer seldom orders anything in a decent manner. He either whistles at us like he would a dog or points at the article.

MESS ATTENDANT.
U.S.S. New Orleans,
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

ENJOYS NEGRO HISTORY

Dear Editor: DEC 21 1940

I congratulate The Pittsburgh Courier in taking the forward step to publish some of the historical facts concerning the Negro race. This is an added evidence of the commendable work which this paper is doing, and as a subscriber you may rest assured that I will do all that I can to urge the members of my race group to read it. I have on my desk now a book by Mr. J. A. Rogers, entitled: "From Superman to Man."

Very truly yours,
WILLARD W. ALLEN.
Baltimore, Md.

SOUTHERNER TELLS HOW HE LEARNED TO RESPECT RACE

Dear Editor: DEC 21 1940

Good for your campaign for equal rights for men who share equal dangers in the Navy. White or black, they are brave men who take a stand like that of the young men on the U.S.S. Davis, even when they know they will probably be punished drastically for it. Such brave acts are infinite in their effects, which never die, and go on and on as examples of the dignity of the one great race—the human race.

I am a Southerner. When I was a child, we white children were encouraged to gang up on Negro children and chase them with rocks down the road, on the way to our separate schools. But even Southerners come to realize the vileness of race chauvinism. Where I learned to realize it was in the Navy. I was a Marine. I knew a Negro messman named Cain, whom I admired for his intelligence, his dignity, his great physical strength.

Then one day I used the word "nigger." Cain doubled up his fists and told me to take it back, or else. I took it back. I was profoundly humiliated, a white man subdued by one of a people I had always been taught were inferior. My feelings were terribly hurt, too, because I regarded Cain as a friend, each of us "in his place," of course. But through the years since, that incident has stuck in my memory. It has become a lesson to me, a symbol of the benefit of a man's fighting for his natural equality, a benefit not only to the one who does the fighting, but the one who is defeated.

To Cain I now feel that I owe a great deal for the great service he did me of undoing the vile mis-teachings of "white superiority" that had been foisted on me from earliest childhood.

So I wish that some word of encouragement and solidarity from me might reach J. M. Piek, J. D. Jones, L. Lattimore, J. L. Brown, Raymond Brown, C. V. Hawkins of the U.S.S. Davis. I am a novelist, now, and those days in the Marines are a long way off, but I will never forget what a Negro messman taught me, and I shall always speak up for equality, for full social, economic and political rights.

Sincerely yours,
EMMETT GOWEN.
New York.

Navy Jim Crow Will Continue, Capital Hears

F. D. Says Army Will Get Some Colored Officers

WASHINGTON

Colored reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to some new colored units of the army, but navy jim-crow will go on as usual.

This interpretation of a recent statement of policy was given by President Roosevelt in reply to a letter signed by Dr. Rayford W. Logan, chairman of the Committee on Participation in the National Defense Program; Dr. Frederick D. Patterson of Tuskegee, and Dr. Howard H. Long of Washington.

The President said: "Majority May Be Needed"

"This statement of policy may be interpreted to include such new units as may be formed under the program of augmentation of the army. The War Department informs me that it is probable that the majority of eligible colored reserve officers will be required."

"If officer candidate schools are established for selectees, colored men will be given an opportunity for reserve commissions."

Other developments concerning the part of colored personnel is to play in the national defense program included advice from Major General E. S. Adams, the adjutant general to the committee, that the War Department intends to use colored reserve officers on extended active duty with "appropriate units."

Jim-Crow Navy

The Navy Department reiterated its policy of using colored men only in the messman branch. The Bureau of Navigation stated:

"After many years of experience, the policy of not enlisting men of the colored race for any branch of the naval service, ex-

THE DRAFT ADMINISTRATION

DEC 21 1940

According to an N.A.A.C.P. report few Negroes are serving on draft boards throughout the country, although much more than ten per cent of those eligible for conscription are colored.

Only in Detroit (12), Youngstown (6), Amelia Court Hosue, Va. (2), Washington, D. C. (28), Durham (1), Berkeley, Calif. (1), Buffalo (3), New York (25), and Kansas City, Mo., were Negroes reported as members of local boards.

Only about 85 Negroes have jobs on draft boards, and 50 of them are in New York, the others being elsewhere in the East and Middlewest.

Several cities have Negro physicians on examining boards, and about 100 Negroes serve as members of advisory boards.

This is a poor showing when it is considered that there are around 7,000 local boards in the U.S.A., and that in large sections of the country the Negro population is extremely large, in some places being as much as 80 or 90 per cent of the total.

Whether or not a registrant will be called for service is left with the local board, and many considerations influence its decision.

Experience teaches us that there is very likely to be a different attitude toward a colored draftee than toward a white draftee, and for this reason there ought to at least be one Negro member of all local boards in jurisdictions having a considerable number of Negro registrants.

But the picture will not change unless local Negro defense committees get busy and make some demands for the filling of future vacancies in draft boards with qualified and responsible Negroes.

It is just as important to have Negro members of draft boards as it is to have Negro members of juries.

THE 'UNCLE TOMS'

The induction of Negroes into the U.S. Army on equal footing with other races has been a bone of contention for many years. The issue comes to the fore every time this country is faced with the threat of war.

It came up in 1917, when America was feverishly engaged in recruiting and training men for overseas service. It comes up again this year when we are hastening our preparedness program in order to meet the eventualities of an ever-widening European conflict.

American democracy is today in much greater peril than in 1917. Let us examine this point for a moment. In the first World War, the United States merely contributed men and money to a coalition of allied forces that made common cause against a common enemy. The Western Allies were made up of Great Britain, France, Russia, Rumania, Italy, Greece, Belgium, Japan and China to name only the major partners. The soldiers of those nations fought under

a unified command and on a common battlefield.

Today, however, Germany within an incredibly short time has conquered nine countries through threats, bribes or actual armed conflict, and is actually consolidating her gains. Belgium and France have surrendered; Roumania, Russia, Italy and Japan are in the camp of the Third Reich; and, China is fighting a war of her own. Only England and Greece are left to face the combined strength of the axis powers.

There is no solid, indivisible front against Hitlerism. Each country fights its own battle while the others tremble and wait for their turn. The German Luftwaffen is daily administering punishing blows to British factories and industrial centers. In the Atlantic Nazi U-boats are playing havoc with British merchantmen. How long can England stand up under such destructive pounding—no one knows. This is the most severe test for the British isles in 900 years. In the first World War Great Britain had 50 battleships, 450 destroyers, and a tremendous assortment of auxiliary naval units. Today, she has only 14 battleships, 180 destroyers of which 75 are over-age. Relentless submarine warfare and deadly accuracy of dive bombers have reduced British auxiliary ships to a bare minimum.

It is admitted even in the most conservative and isolationist quarters that the defeat of England would throw the United States into the vortex of the European conflict. It is this eventuality which America foresees and which causes apprehension.

For the moment, however, this country is more in danger from lack of solidarity from within than from pressure of outside forces. The national unity which is preached from every pulpit and street corner will not come by magic or incantation. The chief difficulty lies in the unwillingness of the very people who talk about unity to extend to the masses the means by which such unity might be achieved. The procedure involved is merely one which would put into actuality the democratic principles which are supposed to represent the foundations of this government and of this nation.

So far as Negroes are concerned, the insistence of military authorities to maintain a Jim Crow bar in U. S. Army at all costs, is one of the major obstacles that lies athwart the road to national unity. But the Negroes themselves are divided on this issue as Dean William

Hastie, civilian aid to the Secretary of War, pointed out to a delegation of eight representatives of youth organizations in a recent interview in Washington. He said:

"As long as people who are opposed to mixed units are able to point to Negroes as also agreeing with this position our problem is extremely difficult."

In other words Dean Hastie means that the "Uncle Toms" in our midst are compromising our interest and injuring our cause. Unfortunately these sycophants often are in strategic position where they can practice with impunity their black art. We must learn to reckon with them as among the enemies of the Race, and, of course of democracy. The sooner we recognize this fact and deal with it appropriately, the nearer we shall be to our objectives. In the meantime there must be no lessening of the attack on segregation that is blocking the path to national unity.

Every Race Enlisted in U.S. Navy

But Only Colored Americans Are Held to Servants' Status

DEC 21 1940

Representatives of practically every breed of the human race, including hybrid types, are enlisted in the U.S. Navy, but through some unexplained procedure none but colored Americans are restricted to service in the messmen's branch.

The extent to which foreign born enlisted men of various shades of color are integrated in the naval service is revealed in the annual report of Rear Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

Formula Puzzling

Based on color alone, figures contained in this report show

132,889 white enlisted men and 6,665 darker peoples, of whom 4,007 are listed as "Negro."

Unless the practice is applied only to colored Americans of African descent, the Navy Department would have to correlate skin color with other criteria to restrict enlistment of one ethnic group to the messman branch.

Foreigners Favored

If the delimitation is applicable only to colored Americans of African descent, the navy would seem to be guilty of discriminating against a group of American citizens on account of color in favor of foreign-born persons by reason of equally superficial characteristics.

The total number of enlisted men in the navy, who were born outside the continental United States, is 4,753. Their nativity is as follows:

Italy	218	Africa	1
Japan	1	Albania	2
Korea	1	Argentina	5
Latvia	1	Armenia	2
Lithuania	3	Australia	8
Luxemburg	1	Austria	72
Mexico	20	Azores	3
Netherlands	1	Belgium	11
Newfoundland	8	Bohemia	4
New Zealand	1	Bolivia	1
Nicaragua	2	Brazil	4
Norway	40	British Col.	35
Nova Scotia	29	B.W.I.	6
Other Countries	3	Bulgaria	5
Palestine	1	Canada	538
Panama	7	Canal Zone	20
Persia	1	China	150
Peru	1	Costa Rica	1
Philippines	187	Cuba	8
Poland	61	Czecho-slovakia	30
Portugal	6	Denmark	35
Pr. Edws. Isl.	1	Dominican Rep.	1
Puerto Rico	35	Egypt	148
Rumania	6	England	148
Russia	58	Finland	12
Samoa	88	France	32
Scotland	86	Germany	231
Serbia	1	Greece	14
South America	2	Guam	557
		Guatemala	1

TOTAL 4,753

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE* 1940
DISCRIMINATION

DRAFT SEGREGATION FOUGHT BY WHITES

Pittsburgh Pa
Connecticut Officials Go to Washington to "Have It Out"—Special Draft Forms to Be Used.

DEC 21 1940

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 19.—Connecticut draft officials returned here today from a 2-day national conference of draft officials from all states.

The Connecticut delegation went to Washington with the express purpose of bringing to a head the discrimination the War Department is practicing against prospective colored draftees.

NO HOUSING IS YET AVAILABLE

Speaking for the delegation, Captain Fred Phelan, Connecticut press representative for the state draft board set-up said, "We have been assured by the War Department that no discrimination is intended, but that no housing is yet available for colored troops."

Phelan declared he had personally conferred with Major Campbell Johnson, executive assistant in the selective service. Major Johnson asked the delegation to wait eight weeks and promised that it would then see an improvement in the handling of race draftees.

Major Johnson also declared that race draftees would be enrolled in regular combat divisions and would not be restricted to labor and service battalions.

Meanwhile, the Connecticut quota of race draftees for the entire month of January has been set at three.

Captain Phelan also revealed that after the first of the year, the War Department will begin using special forms for drafting race men.

Cleveland Jim Crow Gives U. S. Headache

DEC 28 1940

CLEVELAND, Ohio—(By Chas. H. Leob for ANP)—Uncle Sam's age-old policy of segregating his white and Negro children in the army, is having headache-producing effects on members of local draft boards throughout the state who must "fairly and impartially" administer the Selective

Jewish Religious Leaders Back Anti-Jim Crow Fight

DEC 26 1940

NEW YORK—Three hundred Jewish religious leaders, members of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, in a forthright declaration, have advised the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that "we wish to associate ourselves with you in your protest against the segregation of Negroes in the newly conscripted army."

Speaking through the Assembly's social justice committee, they made the statement in a letter to the association signed by Dr. Robert Gordis, chairman of the committee, and made public by the NAACP today. The complete text of the letter which also expresses the organizations full support behind the fight to pass the anti-lynching bill, follows:

"On behalf of the Social Justice Committee of the Rabbinical As-

sembly of America which represents over three hundred Jewish spiritual leaders in America, we wish to associate ourselves with you in your protest against the segregation of Negroes in the newly conscripted army. We regard this as a gratuitous insult to loyal American citizens and a step that is fraught with peril for the maintenance of democratic institutions."

Pittsburgh Pa
**RACE IS
IGNORED
IN HUGE
PROGRAM**

DEC 28 1940

CHICAGO, Dec. 26 (ANP)—The admonition of the National Defense Advisory Commission: "No race discrimination is causing employers who now hold national defense contracts no particular concern," Lester Granger, assistant executive secretary of the National Urban League, made known Friday.

Mr. Granger spoke to an audience of white and Negro businessmen and industrialists at a luncheon at the Morris Eat Shop at which he and L. Hollingworth Wood, Quaker lawyer of New York and national president of the league, were the guests of honor.

EMPLOYERS CHOOSE TO IGNORE NEGRO LABOR

"Employers who are not taking advantage of the availability of Negro labor for defense industry," he asserted, "are not only failing to be efficient, they are failing to be patriotic."

"The country cannot afford to ignore one-tenth of its population. It can't afford to do so either from the point of view

of morale, or of the usefulness of that one-tenth as a source of labor supply."

Granger introduced his opinions by citing the recent statement of the labor policy board of the advisory commission, in which the board declared for a policy of non-discrimination in employment for defense industries. He pointed out that this statement of policy was drawn up by the labor members of the commission, who are headed by Sidney Hillman, and was approved by the commission.

**RECOMMENDATIONS
'DON'T MEAN A THING'**

"The recommendation of labor's spokesmen Hillman, Frey, Hutchinson and Bates," said Granger, "approved by Stettinius and Knudsen, should mean something. Neither the New Deal administration nor any other government at Washington has been sentimental about the Negro, therefore I should judge from the recommendation that those who framed and approved it see a real need for Negro labor."

"This declaration of defense policy, however, carries no disciplinary powers; it is a recommendation to the holders of defense contracts. The National Urban league is making a survey throughout the country to find out whether the present holders of contracts are carrying it out. Thus far what we have found has not been encouraging."

"We are, however, making local appeals to employers, and are presenting our views also to the officials of employment agencies. We see in the expected industrial expansion a chance to re-establish the Negro in the industrial picture, where, during the depression, he has lost out. Unless the Negro takes steps now a golden opportunity will be lost."

Jim Crow Rampant In Northern Army Post Causes Disillusionment Of Negro Youth

DEC 7 1940

"How can we be trained to protect America, which is called a free nation, when all around us rears the ugly head of segregation?"

This is the question asked by a Negro volunteer now serving in a Northern army post, where his Negro regiment, comprising some 300 men is stationed with a white army unit. The army volunteer asks the question in an article which entitled "Jim Crow in the Army Camps," appears in the December issue of the Crisis magazine, official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

New York Age
Segregation is rampant in the army post, he discloses, pointing out that even in the Post theatre which is run by the War Department, the Negro soldiers are forced to sit in a row of seats, "seating not more than fifteen men." "This," he says, "is the Reserved-for-Colored sec-

tion. The Negro soldiers are also segregated in the Post bus, which carries the men back and forth to the nearby town," he points out, adding, "It is far from any idea I ever had of army life."

"But this is not all," he concludes: "Also in the library and the Post Exchange, and on the Post in general, the Negro is treated as if he is not wanted. Many of the young men enlisted in the United States Army are thoroughly disgusted because of segregation. Many were faithfully promised, before enlisting, that they would have an opportunity to learn a trade, or continue with their previous studies. As yet there are no educational facilities for the Negro. Young men have enlisted to do their patriotic duty to America, and to learn some useful trade. The men have done their part. The question is: Will Uncle Sam do his part?"

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 DISCRIMINATION

Virginians Charge Draft Discrimination

EMPORIA, Va. (ANP)— A charge that Negroes required to register for selective military training at Emporia, October '6, were told by a soldier stationed at the front door of the armory to go to the back door has been brought by members of the Greenville county branch of the NAACP.

The protest of the action is disclosed in a letter addressed to an Emporia daily from F. A. Sealy, president of the Greenville NAACP unit. The letter follows:

"It has been brought to my attention that Negro registrants reporting for registration at the Emporia armory building were told by soldier, placed at the vestibule building, that they go around and enter from the back door.

"The United States armory, in this instance, should not be considered as the private residence of anybody to so designate entrance to potential Negro soldiers, who came there to offer their lives, and in compliance with the conscription law.

"It takes other than guns, ammunition, tanks and airplanes to win a war. It takes morale behind this equipment and if this morale is broken or destroyed, woe be to the country in which it happens.

"We have such an example in what happened to France in the present European war, but is this to be the adherent trend that our American democracy intends to pursue if we intend to stop Hitler, if, and when he should attempt to come over here? It is a very bad start; please stop it in time. We ask for the good of the service and for the stake of American democracy."

Full Protection Of Interests Of Racial Minorities In Draft Is Certain Says Major Johnson

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Full protection of the interests of all racial minorities in the operation of Selective Service is assured, Major Campbell Johnson, executive assistant and advisor on Racial Relations, at National Headquarters, Selective Service System, told more than 150 State Selective Service directors and other officials who met in Washington last week.

The Negro represents "not only the largest minority group but also the one concerning which there is the greatest amount of interest in all sections of the country", Major Johnson pointed out. He said:

"The total defense which our nation is planning deals with such factors in our national life as education, industry, armed defense and, probably as important as any of these, national morale.

"National morale is a composite of the condition of morale of minority groups. For that morale to be healthy each group must have a sense of belonging to the nation on a self-respecting basis without any of the badges of differentiation which would set it apart as entitled to less than the full rights and responsibilities of citizenship."

Referring to the provision of the Selective Service Act which says "there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color," Major Johnson declared:

"The desire of the Selective Service System to operate with fairness and impartiality is not due to this provision but independent of it.

"Had such a precaution not been written into the Act, the Selective Service System would probably have been just as eager that it should operate without the possibility of anyone being able to raise against it justly the charge of bias or prejudice."

Recent information received at National Headquarters indicates that Negroes are playing an important part in the actual operation of the Selective Service System, Major Johnson said. He reported that with 33 States heard from members of the race had acted as registrars in 12,207 instances, 80 of them are serving on local boards, that there are 352 registrants Advisory Board members, 120 examining physicians, nine government appeal agents, seven appeal board members, and one medical advisory board member. This number will undoubtedly be greatly increased when the other States, including Pennsylvania, Michigan and New Jersey have reported.

Insofar as Selective Service trainees are concerned, Major Johnson said, there is no question that Negroes will be inducted in fair ratio to their proportion of the nation's population. As facilities, units and training cadres increase, more and more Negro Selectees will enter the armed forces, he predicted. In this connection, he pointed out:

Percentage To Increase
"The number of selectees expected for November and December of this year included 3,943 Negroes or 13.7 per cent of the total. While only 3.3 per cent of the January call will be for Negroes because of lack of housing facilities and training cadres for authorized Negro units, in February, the percentage of Negroes requested in the call will increase to approximately 33 per cent.

"The per cent of Negroes in the calls over the four month period, November to February, will be about 12.2 per cent.

"Since it is estimated that the 1940 census will show that Negroes represent approximately 10 per cent of our population, a slight increase over 1930 this showing for the

first four months of calls removes any fear that Negroes will not be inducted into our democratic citizen army in their full proportion to the total number registered."

WHITE SELECTEES SOUGHT BY CORPS AREA COMMANDERS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26 — Protests against the scheme of deferring colored selectees, resorted to to get around the no-racial discrimination provision of the Selective Training and Service Act, are beginning to reach official circles.

Reports from various corps areas indicate that no colored registrants will be included in the increment of selectees to be ordered to induction centers in January.

The requests for all white selectees are said to originate with the corps area commanders of the Army, who requisition the State Directors of Selective Service for the number of men they need.

LACK OF FACILITIES BEING GIVEN AS REASON

In order to get around the provision in the Selective Training and Service Act prohibiting discriminating on account of race or color in the selection and training of men under its terms, colored men are to be called in their order but are not to be ordered to report at an induction center before some time in February.

The reason given for this deferment of colored selectees is a lack of facilities due to a lag in the construction program at various Army posts. The induction of white selectees, however, is continuing.

Lawyers, who have studied the Selective Training and Service Act, believe that the deferment of colored selectees while the induction of white selectees is proceeding is a violation of the letter and spirit of the act.

PROTESTS CONCERN THIRD CORPS AREA

The first protests concern the Third Corps Area, which consists of the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the Fifth Corps Area consisting of Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia.

The order not to include any

colored selectees in the January quotas apparently was general throughout these two corps areas.

Meanwhile, it was learned at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, selective service reception center for the third corps area, that 67 colored selectees already inducted into the Army were transferred last Tuesday to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. They will be assigned to duty with the 76th and 77th Anti-aircraft Regiments and the 41st Engineers.

SO SAYS SOLDIER JUST DISCHARGED FROM 9th CAVALRY

SEP 14 1940

FORT RILEY, Kas., Sept. 12—(By Lazetta LiDrazzah for ANP)—Recently the writer was summoned to the adjutants' office of the 9th U. S. cavalry, to be given a discharge after completing the last day of a three-year enlistment which closed 12 years of service as a member of 'B' and 'Machine-gun' troop. The discharge, presented by Sergeant Daniels, acting master sergeant, was incomplete. Not a single line was in the space provided for character. The same was true when others were concerned such as "qualifications under arms," and "remarks"—a space which is open for any black-mark an officer might choose to enter against a soldier, at the close of his enlistment. I refused to sign the discharge, despite the fact that the Negroes in charge suggested that First Lieut. John Davis, commander of machine gun troop, was too busy to fool with the document.

My denouncing all such suggestions was not because I was laboring under the belief that either Lieut. Davis or any other member of the 9th cavalry knew enough about my past to enter a single line on the discharge which they might have supported with incriminating evidence, that would have served as a means of tarnishing my past as a soldier. The past nine years covered by three discharges, was covered by the notation: "Character, excellent," and the officers who signed those three discharges knew more about my habits than Lieut. Davis, a newcomer, who first saw me on the firing line a few days previously, where he made a number of vain attempts to drive me to the point of committing myself in a way which would have given him a fair chance to send me to jail before my last week as a soldier was finished.

NEGRO DIVISION, NEGRO OFFICERS

And, too, my failing to sign the discharge was the result of my knowing what had happened to other soldiers, condemned by mem-

bers of the unauthorized corrupt syndicates of the 9th cavalry, who were brave enough to denounce their acts which ranged from stealing to making attempts to seduce some young private soldier into committing "crimes against nature."

My knowing of the existence of such conditions, now being practiced by some leaders of Negro units and ignored by white commissioned officers, is one of the main reasons why I believe that a complete Negro division, supported by intelligent Negro commissioned officers, nurses, physicians, and technicians of the civil service divisions of the United States, is the first of a long line of solutions for the aggravating and disgusting conditions which Negroes have faced and will forever face, when serving as preservers of peace for the United States government.

During the past few years of serving as a feeler-for-information for the Associated Negro Press, the writer questioned many men, women and juveniles of every walk of life, regarding the articles of Levi Pierce, and other fearless "ghost writers" of the army who aided the Negro press, the NAACP and other leaders interested in "the Fight for the Recognition of the Rights of Negro Soldiers." The majority were reluctant to believe Mr. Pierce's stories.

Those who knew that he never once offered a single line which would not have stood up under a thorough, rigid investigation agreed with the writer who spent enough time in the army to declare:

"NO NEGRO IS WANTED IN EITHER THE 9th OR 10th CAVALRY UNLESS HE IS DAMNED WITH A WEAK MIND, AND BLESSED WITH A STRONG BACK."

Such men are afraid to question the incidents as presented in the following paragraphs, which actually happened during the past 12 years in the 9th and 10th Cavalries of Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth:

STILL STRUGGLING ALONG AS PRIVATES

1. At present, there are hundreds of Negro soldiers in the two regiments who served during the World War, still struggling along at the shameful ranks of privates, while it is almost impossible to find a white soldier, of the outfits of the same reservations, holding such a rank with more than three years in service.

2. After disregarding the suggestions of semi-illiterate Negro non-commissioned officers of the army, indicating that Negroes are decidedly satisfied with the parts they are compelled to play in the army today, are the high-ranking officials of War Department in a position to give the Negro Press and the NAACP a logical reason why Negroes are compelled to pay thousands of dollars for the supposed part of "uniformed servants" for white commissioned officers of the United States army who are given salaries and certain compensations which apparently are enough to induce them to hire their diaper washers, bootblacks, bathtub scrubbers, flunkies, yard-men and cocktail party helpers from civil life?

3. During the past 12 years, the writer made notes of cases where drunkards, acclaimed degenerates, habitual gamblers and persons with prison records were promoted to the position of leaders in the 9th cavalry, while efficient, intelligent and trustworthy young men were assigned to the dirtiest tasks the army has to offer. Have the heads of war department, or those of the many corps areas of the army, an alibi worthy of justifying such acts of the commanding officers of Negro regiments and detachments?

4. During the administration of such officers as General Guy V. Henry, Colonel T. D. Allen, Major T. F. Limboker, Colonel Gilbreath and Captain Marcus—the last of a long line of Jim-Crow introducers of the 9th cavalry—the writer witnessed such issues as:

TABLES HAD SIGNS:

"FOR NINTH CAVALRYMEN"
a. Colored spectators, including soldiers, their families and civilians, were herded to a certain section of the bowl in Fort Riley,

during football games between their own team, the 9th Cavalry Indians, and other colored teams. No signs were posted. Still, the military police carried out the instructions, given them before the games by Limboker who was given his walking papers after being raked by the Negro press after an attack upon a Negro soldier with the butt end of a quirt.

b. In the Post Exchange cafe, tables were signalized with signs: "For Ninth Cavalrymen." This was also a suggestion of Limboker and a number of the leading "head Negroes" of the regiment, one of the white waitresses assured the writer.

c. As late as the passing summer, during the administration of Colonel Gilbreath and Captain Marcus, two white officers of the 9th cavalry, wives and relatives of soldiers of the 9th cavalry were compelled to wait in the hospital on benches in halls with WPA laborers who were filthy with mud and sand and smelly with sweat, while the wives of the enlisted men of white regiments were provided with comfortable sitting room, equipped with cushioned furniture and magazines.

Despite the existence of such shameful and humiliating conditions, imposed upon Negro soldiers, their families and colored civilians who pay thousands of dollars each year toward the upkeep of the "Uniformed Negro Scout brush Regiments and Detachments of the U. S. Army," war department heads are still insisting that the Negroes are satisfied and that they are being given all that is allowed them under the Constitution of the United States.

Saturday, September 7, 1940

The Wagner Amendment

Provided that any persons between the ages of 18 and 35 regardless of race or color shall be afforded an opportunity voluntarily to enlist and be inducted into the land and naval forces (including aviation units) of the United States for the training and service prescribed in subsection (B) if he is acceptable to the land and naval forces for such training and service . . .

Thus was written into the conscription bill, recently passed by the Senate, and now being considered by the House of Representatives, an amendment designed to prevent discrimination in the selection of citizens for military and naval services. Whether or not the Wagner amendment is going to serve any useful purpose will depend upon the administration of the law once it has been approved by the house and signed by the President. Obviously, the text of the amendment contains sufficient loop-holes to enable biased officials to continue their jim crow policy and yet remain within the letter of the law.

Therefore it will become the solemn duty of President Roosevelt to see to it that the letter and the spirit of the law is upheld in this case, and the press and other agencies working for full recognition of Negro rights in all branches of the government ought to remain on 24-hour shifts to see that this is done.

Either Negroes are going to be accepted into the military, naval and air corps with equality and fairness or they are not. Which brings us to the point where the government ought to come clean and announce its policy and quit beating about the bush. When men like Senator Connally inquires of Senator Wagner if he wants Negroes to eat at the same tables and sleep in the same beds with white soldiers, we wonder if he too, wants to know if Negroes should be permitted to die on the same battlefield. Or maybe the Texas senator desires to exempt Negroes from military service altogether. Meanwhile, Negroes throughout the country ought to put the pressure on, and demand official cognizance of this issue. The amendment ought to be respected.

No Plans For All-Negro Division, Army Explains

SEP 14 1940

Washington D. C.—(ANP) "The war department has no plans for the organization of a combat division composed exclusively of Negro personnel either in the regular or in the national guard. Colored units will take appropriate places in division and corps organizations and will not be grouped separately."

So wrote General Erwin M. Watson, secretary to the president, in answering a letter of Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell says on Aug. 16, he had a conference with the President at the White House, at which time this matter of racial prejudice was taken up asking that such conditions be wiped out immediately.

"The war department" the letter from General Watson in reply to the problem, further stated, "hopes with the consent of the states

Presidential Secretary In Mitchell Reply

concerned to convert a number of surplus infantry units of the Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, District of Columbia, Ohio, and Illinois national guards to anti-aircraft artillery and engineers.

"These changes are necessary because the national guard has more infantry units than are required for divisional organizations and they involve such famous units as the Seventh regiment of New York, which has recently been converted from infantry to anti-aircraft artillery.

"When existing infantry units of the national guard are converted to units of another arm or service, their commissioned officers are transferred to the converted units. Any additional officers required for colored units so converted will be colored officers. In the national guard, it has always been the policy of war department that colored units be officered by colored officers."

TO FIGHT DISCRIMINATION IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING SET-UP

SEP 13 1940

NEW YORK. — A campaign to fight for the full participation of Negroes in the program of expansion in vocational training now being set up under the National Defense Act was announced this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Announcement of the drive which is designed to get Negroes prepared to take their rightful place in the skilled trades and in every category of the defense program that calls for placing men in every phase of industrial work, was contained in a letter sent out by the N.A.A.C.P. to its branches all over the country.

The plan calls for the setting up of local N.A.A.C.P. committees in every community who will carry the fight to state vocational education officials. The program for action got underway immediately upon receipt of a letter from Dr J. W. Studebaker, United States Commissioner of Education which was sent to the N.A.A.C.P. last week in which the federal education official made it plain that no discrimination against Negroes would be tolerated. Said Dr. Studebaker:

"It is our declared intention that all possible precaution shall be taken against any discrimination of race, creed or color in connection with the training program for national defense, as administered by this office through the various state boards for vocational education."

Negro Beaten As He Seeks to Enlist

NEW YORK CITY.—In a note sent to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson this week, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People launched a vigorous protest over the violent treatment accorded a Negro teacher by officials in a Charlotte, N. C., army recruiting office, when he sought to obtain information about the enlistment of

Negroes in the army. Edward H. Brown, a teacher at a local Negro high school in Charlotte, sought to find out why several of his former pupils had been denied an opportunity to enlist in the army at the local recruiting station.

His refusal to accept the statement that "No more niggers were being accepted," without further explanation, brought him a severe beating at the hands of the local recruiting men.

House Amendment Prohibits Discrimination Against Enlisted, Drafted Negro Citizens

SEP 14 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A fight waged by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to have the Wagner anti-discrimination amendment to the Conscription bill broadened to include drafted as well as enlisted persons was won last week when the House passed the Fish amendment to the Burke-Wadsworth bill prohibiting discrimination not only against voluntary but drafted Negro citizens.

The Wagner amendment, which passed the Senate, provides: "that any person between the ages of 18 and 35, regardless of race or color, shall be afforded an

opportunity voluntarily to enlist and be inducted into the land or naval forces (including aviation units) of the United States for the training and service prescribed in subsection (b), if he is acceptable to the land or naval forces for such training or service."

The amendment introduced in the House by Representative Hamilton Fish of New York, makes the prohibition of discrimination against Negroes a rule of our national defense that closes a wide gap by including within its operation both volunteers as well as draftees in the armed forces of the country.



Assail Aircraft Discrimination: Robert S. Robinson, secretary of the National Negro Congress, showing United Auto Workers, CIO, officials in Los Angeles a letter from Vultee Aircraft, Inc., declaring that the firm employs "Caucasians only." A Negro Congress survey has recently revealed that of the 60,000 aircraft workers in Southern California, only one is a Negro. Left to right are Lou Michener, UAW regional director; Robinson; Miss Zerleash Schamberger, Negro community leader and Wyndham Mortimer, UAW aircraft organizer for the West Coast.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940
DISCRIMINATION

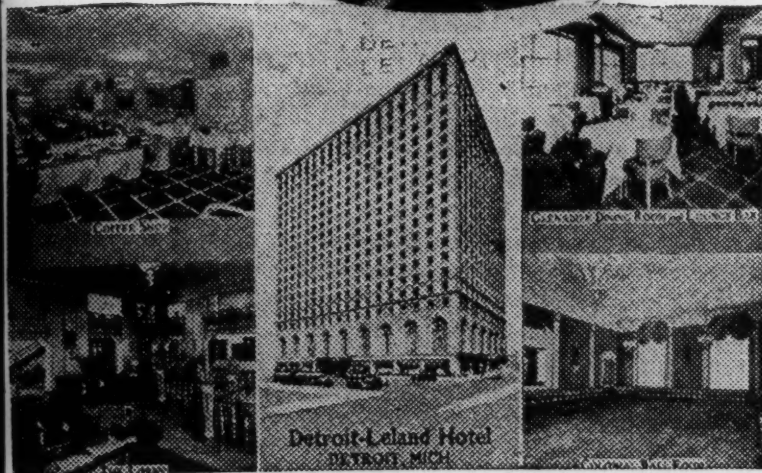
DETROITERS ORGANIZE AGAINST INDUSTRIAL DISCRIMINATION



Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

OCT 19 1940



Last week Detroit Negroes organized to fight discrimination in industry. Circled photo shows mass meeting at Second Baptist church, where L. C. Blount, right, led attack. Bottom, left, shows

Detroit-Leland Hotel where successful meeting was held with industrial moguls who promised fair play, no racial discrimination in plants.

DESPITE URGING FROM NEGRO LEADERS, the Administration has as yet done nothing to assure Negroes who enter the army of the equality of treatment specified in the Selective Service Act. On the contrary, the President has announced that the army will continue its policy of separating white and Negro troops, which means discrimination of the most flagrant kind. It virtually precludes Negro officers, except as chaplains and doctors, in regular army units other than two National Guard regiments. It apparently bars Negroes from aviation, since the Adjutant General of the War Department recently declared that "applications from colored persons for flying-cadet appointment or enlistment in the Air Corps are not being accepted." The problem is certainly a ticklish one. A policy of full race equality would bring cries of anguish from many Southern Congressmen. Yet the fact remains that racial equality is one of the foundation stones of American democracy. And if the very army we summon to defend that democracy denies it in practice, we shall be getting off to a very bad start.

OCT 26 1940

The Nation

New York

Jim Crow in Army to Stay, Stimson Says as Chicago Union Condemns Official Discrimination

NOV 8 1940
(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Nov. 7.—Reiterating their firm opposition to Jim Crow in the Army, Local 356, of the Federated Hotel Waiters Union, A.F. of L., today made public a letter received from Secretary of War Stimson acknowledging and upholding the segregation of Negroes in the Army.

Henry C. Roberts, president of Local 356, said Stimson's letter received by the local in reply to a resolution protesting discrimination in the army.

"The local feels that National Defense without democracy for all of the people is defeating the very purpose for which it is intended," Mr. Roberts declared. "There can be no National Defense when one part of the nation is deliberately pitted against the other, for a house divided against itself must fall."

DEFENDS SEGREGATION

The letter from the War Secretary to Local 356 declared in part:

"The policy of the War Department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense.

"The colored units of the Regular Army are going concerns, accustomed through many years to the present system. Their morale is splendid, their rate of reenlistment is exceptionally high, and their field training is well advanced."

Parley Hits Anti-Negro Bias on Defense Work

NOV 13 1940 (Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 12.—Charging wholesale discrimination against Negroes in employment, in federal government agencies and the National Defense program, 150 delegates and visitors at the Citizens Conference on Jobs and Welfare Sunday worked out a program of action.

Speaker after speaker pointed to acts of discrimination which are causing unemployment and hardship among Negroes in the District of Columbia. Harry McAlpine, one of the supervisors at the D. C. Employment Center, himself a victim of an attempted firing because of his interest in developing opportunities for Negro workers, pointed to numerous cases where Negroes, who qualified in every respect, were rejected because of their race.

Dorey Wilkerson, of the Howard Teachers Union, A. F. of L., discussed the changes which have taken place in U. S. economy as a result of major emphasis on war industries. The fact that in those industries which are being stressed, Negroes have been and are being discriminated against, exposes the effort to deprive the Negro people of any benefits from this expanding industrial program, Wilkerson stated.

MANY SPEAKERS

Eugene Davidson, administrator of the New Negro Alliance, stressed that the Negro people must seek the support of their white co-workers in this drive to gain recognition.

Robert E. Bondy, director of the Board of Public Welfare, absolved the District Commissioners of any responsibility for the relief crisis in the city, although he admitted that the officials themselves are not requesting funds of Congress to provide for the thousands of "employable" unemployed.

Robert Robinson, president of the District Workers Alliance, pointed to the disastrous effects which the scrapping of the New Deal program by the administration is having upon the unemployed.

Sidney Katz, secretary-treasurer of the Maryland-D.C. CIO, pointed to the inadequacies of District unemployment insurance and pointed out, that in making changes in the law, the District Commissioners had not called in organized labor which had definite proposals to make in the interest of the workers.

Prof. A. Hunton, chairman of the Negro Congress labor committee, was chairman of the conference. In a summary presented by U. S. Tate, chairman of the Labor Committee of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, the following proposals were made:

PROGRAM

1—The organization of a concerted campaign to obtain jobs for Negroes in government agencies and the defense program. To demand of the Defense Commission jobs for Negroes, where qualified in proportion to population. Delegations to be organized to visit various government agencies and officials demanding jobs, elimination of the photograph system in civil service and doing away with administrative civil service regulation which make possible discrimination.

2—A committee to the District Commissioners and Congress to request an adequate relief appropriation for the District, to provide for all unemployed, "employable" and "unemployable."

3—To request of the District Unemployment Compensation Board immediate action in order to include domestic workers, to shorten the waiting period and length time of benefits.

4—Committee to see Paul Edwards, administrator of District

WPA, requesting an increased WPA quota, reinstatement of all fired WPA workers and an end to discrimination against Negro in so far as white-collar projects are concerned and Negro supervisors.

Stephen T. Early Tells N.A.A.C.P. He Didn't Mean To Imply That 3 Conferees Okayed Army Jim Crow

NOV 9 1940

Expressing dismay over any part he may have played in permitting correspondents to interpret the President's October 9 announcement on army segregation as having the endorsement of Negro officials who conferred with the Chief Executive on September 27, Stephen T. Early, White House press secretary told the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that he was "deeply regretful."

Early made the statement in a letter to Walter White, executive secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., dated October 25, the same date on which the President also sent a letter to the N.A.A.C.P. expressing regret "that there had been so much misinterpretation" of his announcement settling War Department policy regarding Negroes in the army.

The complete text of Early's letter follows:

"Since writing to you on October 18, I have learned that certain newspapers have interpreted the White House statement of October 9 in a way that has caused embarrassment to you and your associates, Messrs. Randolph and Hill.

"My purpose in writing you at this time is to tell you as emphatically and as honestly as it is possible for any man to speak to another, that there was no disposition or intention on my part, when I made the statement to the press, to cause you or your colleagues any embarrassment whatsoever. If the words I used have been interpreted by any newspaper writer in a way that embarrasses you

or your associates, I am deeply regretful.

Cites Stenographer's Report

"As I told you in my letter of October 18, the stenographer's report of my oral statement to the press, reads as follows:

"You will remember that on September 27 the President held a conference in his office with Walter White and I think, two other Negro leaders. Present at that conference also were the Secretary of Navy and the Assist. Secretary of War. The subject discussed at the conference and responsible for the conference was Negro participation in national defense."

"As a result of that conference the War Department has drafted a statement of policy with regard

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 DISCRIMINATION

NEGRO WORKERS MUST BE GIVEN SHARE IN JOBS

Determined to Wipe
Out Discrimination,
White Tells Aides

SEP 28 1940

NEW YORK—Continuing a vigorous fight against job discrimination suffered by Negroes who have been refused employment in manufacturing plants receiving billions of dollars in Government contracts under the national defense program, the NAACP this week sent to its branches throughout the country a second list of firms whose Army and Navy contracts have been cleared by the production division of the National Defense Advisory Commission.

The list includes the names of sixty-seven firms in nineteen states whose contracts were okayed by the advisory commission between July 18 and 27.

The first list, sent to branches of the organization August 16 when the job campaign was launched, contained the names of 163 firms whose contracts with the Government were cleared between June 6 and July 17.

In a letter containing a guide for action, which was sent out with the list, Walter White, executive secretary of the association said:

Want Full Share

"Congress has appropriated to date approximately twenty billion dollars for national defense. We, as Negroes, should have our full proportionate share of the jobs which will be created in fulfilling these contracts, the cost of which we will pay. We have been shocked at the extent of discrimination against Negroes in the past. Only persistent, sustained action by us can reduce and wipe out this discrimination."

The campaign guide calls for setting up branch steering managers in their area to urge the employment of Negroes in skilled as well as unskilled jobs, launch a local educational drive among workers to get them to apply for jobs, and secure affidavits from workers who have been refused employment.

The association has also sent out a questionnaire to its branches for use in interviewing plant managers to secure the facts regarding their employment policies in the hiring of Negroes.

Aid to Workers

The educational phase of the campaign, White said in the letter, includes a program of disseminating information to church, civic, fraternal and youth groups concerning the federal government's operation of apprenticeship schools and courses in vocational training for the purpose of providing skilled workers for the plants to which federal contracts have been given.

In order to get the maximum of support behind the program, N.A.A.C.P. branches have been urged to work closely with industrial service organizations, labor unions and other bonafide organizations in the communities.

The association also called upon organizations interested in working in the job campaign to get in touch with the N.A.A.C.P. national headquarters at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Action to Force Army to Accept Negroes Planned

SEP 30 1940

New York, Sept. 29.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced Saturday that it would take court action "to compel the army or navy" to accept enlistment of men "refused the privilege on account of race or color."

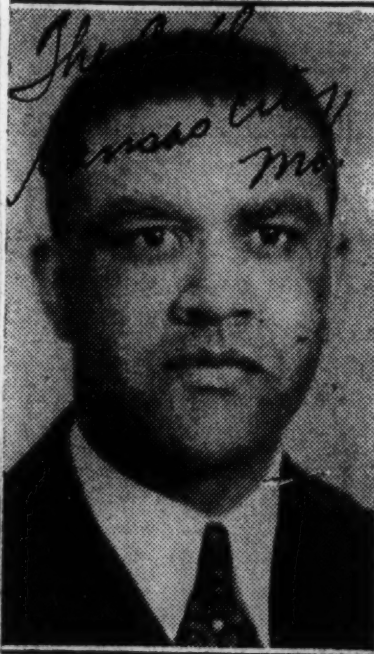
Such actions, should they become necessary in the organization's opinion, would be taken against the secretary of war or the secretary of the navy, the association said.

The resolution was passed, the association said, following an exchange of correspondence between the organization, Secretary of War Stimson and the navy department.

Stimson was quoted in his reply as stating that 17 additional Negro units had been authorized while the navy said it had adopted the policy of enlisting "men of the colored race" only as messmen.

On Draft Board

OCT 4 1940



DR. WILLIAM MCKINLEY THOMAS, physician of Leavenworth, is a member of the three-man draft board which will handle conscription in his city. His appointment was the outgrowth of a nation-wide effort made by the National Medical association to have Negroes participate on the policy-making bodies of the conscription program. Dr. Thomas says that General McLinn, head of the Kansas National Guard, who is the state director of the draft, is kindly disposed to the appointment of Negro physicians on the medical examining boards in thickly populated areas.

Jim Crow in Middy Blouse

NOV 26 1940

THE highest rank to which a Negro may aspire in the US Navy is officers' messman. Two Negro messmen are in prison facing courtmartial; sixteen others are confined to shipboard. The charge? Against the two in prison the navy levels the accusation of insubordination—they protested unbearable treatment. The sixteen protested against the imprisonment of their mates. A letter from three of the confined men is published in the Pittsburgh Courier of November 9. Among other things, it says:

We are subjected to being roughly spoken to three-fourths of the time, cursed at sometimes, without a murmur of resentment coming from us. In case of resentment, we are put on report, restricted, fined, or sent to the brig for being insubordinate. . . . The majority of officers seem to think that we Negroes are a race of illiterates who have to have someone standing over them with a whip all the time to tell them what to do. They are the kings, we are the flunkies. . . . We have no side to our story, and if we have, it doesn't do any good anyway. . . .

This is but one sample of the bitter fruit of President Roosevelt's recent order continuing the Jim Crow tradition in the armed forces. Secretary Stimson declares that the policy is "satisfactory" and says he will not change it, in answer to a protest of Federated Hotel Workers Union, Local 356, AFL. Other organizations are rising to defend Negroes against maltreatment and discrimination. A nationwide parley held in Washington last Sunday points out that Negroes are being denied work in war industries. Local committees of the National Negro Congress are active. The American Peace Mobilization is also taking part in this campaign the object of which is to end the shameful mistreatment of Negroes in the armed forces.

Roosevelt And War Cabinet Hear Jim Crow Report Of N. A. A. C. P.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Roosevelt ordered the war department Wednesday to put into effect immediately a policy providing that the services of Negroes will be utilized on "a fair and equitable basis" in the national defense program. Announcing the President's action, Stephen Early, his press secretary, said it followed a conference Mr. Roosevelt had September 27 with Negro leaders and Frank Knox, secretary of the navy, and Robert Patterson, assistant secretary of war.

Statement of Policy
Early said Patterson thereafter submitted a statement of policy which the President approved.

The statement as given out at the White House:

"It is the policy of the war department that the services of Negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis. In line with this policy provision will be made as follows:

"1. The strength of the Negro personnel of the army of the United States will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country.

"2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.

"3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by colored personnel.

"4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.

Negroes As Air Pilots

"5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

"6. At arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

"7. The policy of the war department is not to intermingle Negro and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years and to make changes would produce situations de-

structive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense. For similar reasons the department does not contemplate as signing colored reserve officers other than those of the existing Negro combat units of the regular army. These regular units are going concerns, accustomed through many years to the present system. Their morale is splendid, their rate of enlistment is exceptionally high, and their field training is well advanced. It is the opinion of the war department that no experiments should be tried with the organizational set-up of these units at this critical time."

NEW YORK.—Details of the conference dealing with discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces of the United States which was held at the White House on September 27 were made public this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Present at the conference were: The President, the Secretary of the Navy, Col. Frank Knox, the Assistant Secretary of War, Robert P. Patterson, A. Philip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, T. Arnold Hill, of the National Youth Administration and Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The President stated to the conferences that Negro units would be organized in all branches of the army, combat as well as service units.

In response to inquiries about the training of Negroes as Commissioned Officers, the use of Negro professionals such as doctors, dentists, pharmacists and nurses, and the use of Negroes in the Air Corps, the President stated that plans for the use of Negroes in these capacities had not yet

been developed.

The Assistant Secretary of War, Patterson stated that the War Department planned to call for service soon Negro reserve officers but that the date had not yet been decided upon. OCT 11 1940

As to the Navy, Col. Knox stated that while he was sympathetic, he felt that the problem there was almost insoluble since men have to live together on ships. Col. Knox stated that 'Southern' and 'Northern' ships are impossible.

Messrs. Randolph, Hill, and White presented a memorandum to the President and the War and Navy representatives urging the use of Negro reserve officers and the same opportunities for training Negroes as given to others, the opening of opportunities for training and service in all branches of the air service, requirements that existing units of the army and navy to be established be required to accept officers and enlisted personnel on the basis of ability instead of race or color, the use of qualified Negro technicians, abolition of racial discrimination in the Navy, and the appointment of competent Negro civilians as Assistants to the Secretary of the War and the Navy.

Abolition of the existing discrimination not only in the armed forces but in employment of Negroes in Army Arsenals, Navy Yards, and industrial plants who have received National Defense Contracts was also urged vigorously.

Speaking on behalf of Messrs. Randolph Hill and himself, Walter White made the following statement: "It is gratifying that opportunity has been afforded to discuss frankly with the Commander-in Chief and with the top representatives of the Navy and Army the flagrant discrimination Negro citizens are encountering in the combat and civilian wings of National Defense. While very little was definitely promised so far as action against these barriers is concerned, we believe definite progress was made."

The complete text of the memorandum given to President Roosevelt, Col. Knox of the Navy, and Assistant Secretary of War Patterson reads:

"The following are important phases of the integration of the Negro into military aspects of the national defense program:

"1. The use of presently available Negro reserve officers in training recruits and other forms of active service. At the same time, a policy of training additional Negro officers in

all branches of the services should be announced. Present facilities and those to be provided in the future should be made available for such training. OCT 11 1940

"2. Immediate designation of centers where Negroes may be trained for work in all branches of the aviation corps. It is not enough to train pilots alone, but in addition navigators, bombers, gunners, radio men and mechanics must be trained in order to facilitate full Negro participation in the air service.

"3. Existing units of the Army and units to be established should be required to accept an select officers and enlisted personnel without regard to race.

"4. Specialized personnel such as Negro dentists, pharmacist and officers of chemical warfare, camouflage service and the like should be integrated into the services.

"5. The appointment of Negroes as responsible members in the various national and local agencies engaged in the administration of the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940
DISCRIMINATION

War Department Drops 'Color' Tag From New York And Chi Regiments - Deny Any Change To 'Labor' Details

NEW YORK—War Department regulations have been amended so that the term "colored" will not be used as an inseparable part of a colored unit's designation", according to information given the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by the War Department and made public by the Association here today.

The information was contained in a letter sent to the Association July 27 by Major General Emory S. Adams in response to N. A. A. C. P. protests launched with President Roosevelt, former Secretary of War Harry Woodring, and Governor Herbert Lehman, of New York.

The information referred specifically to the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard and the 8th Illinois National Guard. The N. A. A. C. P. had protested to President Roosevelt against the War Department's new regulation designating these army units as "colored", in a letter sent to the Chief Executive June 13. A similar protest was sent to the then Secretary of War, Harry Woodring.

Given New Combat Ratings
Major General Adams denied a report that those army units would be discontinued as combat units and placed in the category of labor battalions. He said the 369th will be changed to the 369th Coast Artillery in charge of anti-aircraft work, and the 8th Illinois Infantry converted into a 155-mm gun regiment, both combat units.

The statement denying the labor battalion report, confirmed a telegram sent to the N. A. A. C. P. June 10 by Governor Herbert H. Lehman, of New York, in which he also denied the report, pointing out that he himself had asked that the two National Guard units be designated as anti-aircraft units because of his high regard for these regiments.

War Department Letter
The letter also stated that the War Department has authorized the acceptance of 304 Negro applicants for enlistment to date. The complete text of the letter, which also includes the points where Negro army detachments are now stationed, follows:

"Reference is made to your recent telegram in regard to a rumor that the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard, and the 8th Illinois National Guard, are to be made labor

units. Reference is also made to your letter to the President, which has been referred to this office for reply.

"Instructions have already been issued for the conversion, effective about September 15, 1940, of the 369th Infantry Regiment to the 369th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft and an increase of the officer personnel from 48 to 60 officers. Negotiations are under way to convert the 8th Illinois Infantry (less 3rd Battalion) into a 155-mm. howitzer or gun regiment, GHQ Reserve. Both the anti-aircraft regiment and the field artillery regiment are combat troops. No suggestion has been made at any time, either by the National Guard Bureau, or by the state concerned, to convert existing colored infantry units of the National Guard into "labor" troops.

"Regulations have been amended so that the term "colored" will not be used as an inseparable part of a colored unit's designation.

"At present there is authorization for the enlistment of 304 additional colored applicants. As soon as the number of new colored units to be formed has been definitely determined the enlistment of additional colored personnel will, undoubtedly, be authorized.

BANS ON RACE, CREED, COLOR ARE OUTLAWED

Measure Passed After Bitter Debate by New York Congress
Vote of 53-21 Aug. 31, 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Legislative destruction of the barriers against Negroes serving in the armed forces of this country became a reality Monday when, after a bitter debate, the Senate passed an amendment to the

pending Conscription Bill requiring the War Department to accept voluntary enlistments in all branches of the Army, regardless of race or color.

The amendment, offered by Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, was bitterly fought by Senator Connally of Texas, who charged that Wagner really wanted to make it necessary for the Army to have colored volunteers "serve in the same companies, sleep in the same rooms and eat at the same tables with white soldiers."

Passage of the Wagner amendment by a 53-21 vote was followed by speedy action on other proposed amendments to the bill during which the Senate voted to limit the size of the proposed conscription army to 900,000 at any one time and approved the use of drafted men for defense of the entire Western Hemisphere and all American possessions.

As a result of the rush of action, a final Senate vote on the Conscription Bill itself loomed as a probability before the week is over.

The Wagner Amendment, hailed as a major victory for the forces waging a bitter campaign against race discrimination in the nation's armed forces, was offered following an exchange of correspondence between the Senator, Walter White, of the NAACP, and General Sessions Justice Jonah J. Goldstein of New York City.

In his letter to Senator Wagner, dated August 8, 1940, Judge Goldstein wrote:

"My attention has been called to a situation that should be remedied without delay. I am told that obstacles are placed in the path of Negroes who are desirous of enlisting in our Army and Navy.

"No distinction is made during a 'draft' and none should be made during voluntary enlistment.

"Negroes have proven themselves good soldiers and if it were not for the Negro athletes

our country would not have won any branch of these services in the last Olympic Games. without discrimination because of

"I cannot for the life of me understand why in a country where the basic principle is "no distinction by reason of race, creed, or color," volunteers should be barred from the defense of their country solely because of their color.

"Should anyone dispute that discrimination exists, I am prepared to give you the facts.

"Knowing you as I do, I am confident that you will do your utmost to correct an undemocratic and senseless situation."

Replying to Judge Goldstein in the same companies, sleep in the same rooms and eat at the same tables with white soldiers."

"Thank you for your letter of recent date, concerning discrimination against Negroes in the Army and Navy.

"I have introduced an amendment to the pending Burke-Wadsworth bill which will prevent such discrimination. You may rely upon my cooperation in every way possible in behalf of these citizens.

"For your information, I enclose a copy of the amendment and other information from the Congressional Record."

To Introduce Anti-Jim Crow Amendment To Conscription Bill

AUG. 31, 1940
An amendment to the Burke-Wadsworth conscription bill, which would prohibit discrimination against Negroes in enlistment and service in the army and navy will be introduced in the Senate by Senator Warren Barbour of New Jersey, it was announced Saturday.

The text of the proposed amendment is as follows:

"In the administration of the foregoing provision (permitting volunteer enlistments by those subject to the selective service) and all other enlistments for service in the military and naval establishments of the United States, applicants for enlistment, if otherwise acceptable, shall be accepted for service without discrimination on account of color or race and men so enlisted and or inducted into the land or naval forces of the United States shall be permitted to serve

AUG. 31, 1940
Amendment Passed

After bitter debate in the Senate chambers, the Senate by a vote of 53 to 21, accepted the provision which would eliminate discrimination in the selective service setup. Senator Connally (Dem. Tex.) took the view that it was shocking that Senator Wagner (D.N.Y.) "really wanted to make it necessary for the Army

to have colored volunteers serve in the same companies, sleep in the same rooms and eat at the same tables with white soldiers."

This action of the Senate was seen as an emergency measure to decrease the opposition among Negroes and some of the more radical foes of conscription to the draft legislation on the grounds that it eliminated fair and equitable treatment of Negroes.

Seek To Erase Discrimination In National Defense Program

7-27-40
William H. Hastie Acts As Adviser
To Committee Asking Insertion of
"Non-Discrimination" Clause

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Formulation by the National Defense Advisory Commission of a policy to wipe out racial discrimination in the employment of workers in industries essential to national defense is sought by the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program.

The aim of the committee is to lessen barriers against the employment of colored persons as both skilled and unskilled laborers in national defense industries, whether due to employment policies of management or membership policies of labor unions.

William H. Hastie, dean of Howard University law school, who served as adviser to the committee in this matter, at first considered the question of whether the committee should request the National Defense Advisory Commission to insert in government contracts with national defense industries a provision against discrimination in employment on the basis of race, creed, or color.

7-27-40
NO AUTHORITY FOR
INSERTION OF CLAUSE
The Comptroller General, however, had ruled that there is no statutory authority for the inclusion of a "non-discrimination" clause in a government construction contract for the performance of public work and that such a clause might be converted into a discrimination clause by giving preference to persons of one color over persons of another.

Mr. Hastie recommended that the committee request the National Defense Advisory Commission to declare its opposition to racial discrimination in employment for and navy projects. The second involved an equitable division of production for the national defense and to make a study of "persuasive and coercive procedures" it may adopt to end such practice.

The request was embodied in letters sent to both William S. Knudsen, member of the National Defense Advisory Commission in charge of production, and Sidney

program it is hoped that consideration will be given to the needs of Negroes in providing work and training as both skilled and unskilled laborers. To that end the following suggestions are submitted for your consideration:

EQUITABLE PLACEMENTS

"1. That Negroes be given work in proportion to their numbers on WPA rolls on projects operated directly by the war and navy departments with funds transferred from WPA and on projects which are sponsored by the war and navy departments, but which are operated by the WPA within its programs in the various states.

"2 That funds for training national defense workers be spent in equitable proportions for the training of Negroes.

"3. That Negro workers be given an equal opportunity to secure a share of the increased employment resulting from the national defense program.

"This committee desires to be of aid to the federal government in carrying out the national defense program and will be glad to cooperate with the Works Progress Administration in any way it can."

Hillman, member of the commission in charge of labor problems and labor training. Both letters were identical. Their text follows:

"It is a matter of great and immediate concern to Negro citizens throughout the country that Negro women, skilled as well as unskilled, be given employment without racial discrimination in those industrial establishments manufacturing, constructing and producing for national defense under government contracts. Both employment policies of management and membership policies of labor unions have been and are in many cases the means of discriminating against Negro labor.

"We ask, therefore, that the National Defense Advisory Commission establish and announce that as a matter of policy it opposes racial discrimination in employment for production for the national defense, and will use such means as are at its disposal to prevent and eliminate such discrimination.

"We also urge that the commission make an immediate study of persuasive and coercive procedures at its disposal to the end that it may act effectively in opposition to such discrimination against Negro labor.

"Both because of the immediacy of the problem and the grave concern of the Negro public, we request that this matter receive your attention promptly."

SEEK CONSIDERATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

Another development was the request of the Works Progress Administration by the committee on participation of Negroes for consideration of the needs of colored people in providing work and training as both skilled and unskilled laborers.

In this connection the committee submitted three suggestions to Colonel F. C. Harrington, commissioner of the WPA. The first related to proportionate employment of colored persons on army and navy projects. The second involved an equitable division of funds provided for the training of national defense workers, and the third had to do with equal job opportunities.

The text of the letter to Colonel Harrington follows: "In connection with the cooperation of the Works Progress Administration in the national defense

ARMY COLOR LINE FAILS TO DAUNT FAY

Courier: SAVANNAH, Ga., July 25.—Steady bombardment of the "color line" in the United States Army is the task which Fay Patterson, 412 Ellis street, this city, has chosen for himself. Patterson, despite repeated rebuffs, is determined to break into the army.

Reporting on Patterson's effort, the local daily newspaper states:

"For the past four months, Patterson has done everything in his power to effect his enlistment. He has been to Columbus, to Fort Benning. He has been to Columbia. He has been to Charleston. And he has been to other military centers.

"He has written commanding officers. He has written the President. He's going to write to Senator Russell. 27-40.

"Patterson has a good education. He is a graduate of Custer High. He has had a year of correspondence school work in aviation mechanics. He seems to be in excellent physical condition.

"Patterson's trouble is his color. It seems the army is not enlisting colored boys right now.

"Patterson says he feels entitled to experience in the army, that he may be, in the event of any contingency, of greater service to his country."

But Patterson, just like The Courier, is not discouraged. He's going to keep up his fight until the army gives him some satisfaction.

Was His Face Red?

OCT 26 1940

MONCK'S CORNER, S.C.—"White supremacy" suffered a setback here last week before a gathering of 125 colored and 150 white teachers when the clerk of the county court, Pete Meyer, refused to follow instructions of the principal of a white grammar school at St. Stephens, and administer a separate oath to him as a member of the registration board in Berkeley County.

In answer to the principal's request, the clerk replied in a polite but indignant tone: "I have had no orders for any separation or distinction. Gentlemen, will you stand and be sworn in?"

The two colored officials appointed to the registration board were Prof. R. A. Ready, principal of the Berkeley Training High School, here, and Prof. William Seymour of Russellville.

CONNALLY OF TEXAS LEADS "SEN Blasts Anti-Discrimination Amendment To

EDITOR'S NOTE:—The following excerpts, taken from the August 26th issue of The Congressional Record, and covering seven complete pages of controversial testimony, are hereby reprinted in an effort to show just how far the reactionary Southern leaders will go to defeat any measure destined to force recognition of the Negro as a citizen of these United States. The discussion brought into bold relief the evasions and the "play on words" which are so oftentimes indulged in, to becloud the real issues involved.

Ellender of Louisiana, Barbour of New Jersey, Lee of Oklahoma, Barkley of Kentucky, Vandenberg of Michigan and Johnson of Colorado.

The Senate was in an uproar following the introduction of the amendment, which insisted that there be no discrimination against Negroes in the military when Senator Wagner introduced his wording of the amendment.

Chief opponent of the bill, which would favor Negroes more than the War Department now favors them, was the Negrophile from Texas, Tom Connally, in the gallery.

Declaring that the Negro would not be discriminated against in the plans of the War Department, Connally was answered by Senator Schwartz of Washington, a more liberal minded man, who called attention to the fact that

a year ago, the Congress incorporated in a bill a provision that an opportunity should be given to the army to train colored pilots.

"The army has not been able to work out that provision said Senator Schwartz, "I do not understand that they would be particularly adverse to it if they could find a place, after they educated the pilot, where he could perform service to his country and not of necessity be within a mixed social situation whereby he would have to be associated in his flights with white officers, and possibly the colored man and his family would have to be part of the white organization at different posts. "I think most of the colored men understand that; but it was the idea of the colored men that with the present increase of the army there would be a place for colored pilots connected with colored regiments or at other places where they would not have to be working with white pilots. The War Department has told me very frankly that they have not created what they call the social situation in the south and in the army. It is there, and it exists, and they have to meet the situation, and they are trying to do it."

Introducing the old bugaboo about the large number of Japanese who live in the Hawaiian Islands as one of the reasons for not wanting to pass this amendment, Senator Lister Hill spoke at length, trying to show that this was the season that the amendment was inadvisable.

Senator Tydings confirmed this position, placing the welfare of 153,000 Hawaiian Japanese above that of the 13,000,000 Negroes in the United States.

But it was Connally who felt that the brunt of the battle was on his Texas shoulders and he usurped most of the Senate's time what he thought a masterpiece of wit and sarcasm.

AMENDMENT PASSED BY A VOTE OF 53 TO 21

Despite his efforts, the amendment was passed by a vote of 53 to 21, with 22 senators not voting. Included in the nays were two Republican senators, Austin and Gibson, both from Vermont.

"I think I know as much about the colored race as does the Senator from New York, and I think I serve them fully as well as does the Senator from New York," said Connally in his speech. "I was raised with colored people, and played with colored boys when I was about, and I worked with

them side by side in the cotton fields and other places. I am ready to fight for the rights of the colored man under the laws and the constitution, not simply during election time, as the Senator from New York is.

"But I realize better perhaps than the Senator from New York that constitutional and legal rights are one thing and the right to select one's associates socially is another thing. There is something of the Anglo-Saxon race written in the constitution, there is something of our blood written in the statutes. 'Do not compel me to accept any man, whether he is white or black or yellow or red, as my social companion and equal, if I do not want to so accept him.'"

"If the Senator from New York wants to write into this law a provision that would put colored men and white men in the same company, make them sleep together, in the same tent, make them eat together at the same table, why does he not do so? If he were courageous, that is, what he would do. If he wanted to insure absolute equality under the law that is what he would do. But he has not got the courage to do that. He wants to say, 'Why, of course, the colored men can enlist in the army.' They have always been enlisted in the army for years and years and years. The Senator from Texas makes no objection to their enlisting in the army, but he thinks that when

any citizen, white or black comes to have to join them. to his government and asks to 'Let them be assigned in the serve, he ought to be willing to army where they can best serve. give up some of his own conveniences, and if the army does, they will go. There will be plenty not have an aviation unit whereof room for them.

he is needed or where he can serve, he ought not to demand, 'You have got to establish an aviation unit for my own special benefit, whether your need it or whether you do not.' WHY DOES THE SENATOR SINGLE OUT AVIATION?

"Why does the Senator from New York single out aviation? Because the army if we have a war, but cause the army has no colored aviation units, and the Senator from New York would make these government of the United States establish an aviation unit to accommodate a little handful of colored men who may possibly want to enlist in the aviation unit.

"Of course, let colored men join the army. As I recall, in the Spanish-American war the colored soldiers gave a pretty good account of themselves in Cuba, but they were regular division troops, they were trained troops. Certainly I want them to join the army. I want them to perform their duty. They are always claiming through the Senator from New York, their rights under the constitution. One of these rights goes along with a similar duty to serve the country and I welcome the colored men in the army of the United States, but when they join, I want them to join the army. I do not want the army

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5—(ANP)—Four Senate Monday, following the introduction of the amendment, before the modified amendment was taken. Taking part were Senators Wagner of New York, Schwartz of Washington, Tydings of Maryland,

CONNALLY TELLS WHAT OUR ATTITUDE SHOULD BE

"If we go to war, there will be plenty of room for all the colored men as well as the white men who wish to serve. The Senator from New York need have no anxiety about his friends finding room in the army if we have a war, but do not believe they ought to dictate as to how the army should be organized."

"Mr. President, let the colored people join. God bless them. Let them come in and join the army; but when they do, let them come up and say, 'Mr. Government, I want to serve you. I want to fight in the army. Put me where I can best serve.'"

NATE-BAITERS" CHANGE MADE BY WAR DEPT. Conscription Bill AFTER PROTEST

teen senators took part in the bitter debate on the floor of the
of the Wagner amendment to the Wadsworth-Burke conscrip-
agreed upon.

New York, Tom Connally of Texas, Lister Hill of Alabama,
Hatch of New Mexico, Bankhead of Alabama, Overton and

ary forces, including aviation units, of the U. S. government,

whose sarcastic speech brought some laughter from adherents

STUDEBAKER MAY PROBE RACE BIAS

Pittsburgh Courier
Courier Committee Registers Complaint After Charges
Are Made From Dixie.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 5—Charges of racial dis-
crimination in Southern States respecting the training of
workers for national defense industries are beginning to
reach the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the
National Defense Program.

Such charges are being brought that certain state directors of vo-
cational education are insisting
to the attention of Dr. John W. Studebaker, United States Com-
missioner of Education, who has charge of the allocation of Fed-
eral funds to states and local communities for vocational train-
ing under the National Defense Program, and Sidney Hillman, Com-
mittee on Participation of Ne-
groes in the National Defense Pro-
gram that persons may be taken
from WPA and other rolls in an-
ticipation of needs in industry not
now existing.

The difficulty appears to arise from the fact that certain state
directors of vocational education
are insisting that colored trainees
must be taken from WPA rolls,
while in setting up the WPA rolls
little or no attention was paid to
the registration of colored workers
as skilled or semi-skilled work-
men.

This situation appears to be
further aggravated by the fact

369th Wins Fight Against "Distinction" From Other Units

NEW YORK—War Depart-
ment regulations "have been
amended so that the term
"colored" will not be used as
an inseparable part of a col-
ored unit's designation," according
to information given the National
Association for the Advancement of
Colored People by the War Depart-
ment and made public by the asso-
ciation here Friday.

The information was contained in
a letter sent to the association July
27 by Major General Emory S. Adams
in response to N.A.A.C.P. protests
launched with President Roosevelt,
former Secretary of War, Harry
Woodring, and Governor Herbert
Lehman, of New York.

The information referred speci-
cally to the 369th infantry, New
York National Guard and the Eighth
infantry, Illinois National Guard.

The N.A.A.C.P. had protested to
President Roosevelt against the war
department's new regulation desig-
nating these army units as "colored."
In a letter sent to the Chief Ex-
ecutive June 13. A similar protes-
was sent to the then Secretary of
War, Harry Woodring.

Major General Adams denied
report that those army units would
be discontinued as combat units and
placed in the category of labor
battalions.

He said the 369th will be changed
to the 369th coast artillery in charge
of anti-aircraft work, and the
Eighth Illinois infantry converted
into a 155 mm gun regiment, both
combat units.

The statement denying the labor
detachment report, confirmed a tele-
gram sent to the N.A.A.C.P., June
10 by Governor Herbert H. Lehman,
of New York, in which he also

denied the report, pointing out that
he himself had asked that the two
national guard units be designated
as anti-aircraft units because of
his high regard for these regiments.

The letter also stated that the
War Department has authorized the
acceptance of 304 Negro applicants
for enlistment to date. The complete
text of the letter, which also gives
the points where Negro army de-
tachments are now stationed, fol-
lows:

"Reference is made to your re-
cent telegram in regard to a rumor
that the 369th Infantry, New York
National Guard, and the Eighth In-
fantry, Illinois National Guard, are
to be made labor units. Reference
is also made to your letter to the
President, which has been referred
to this office for reply.

"Instructions have already been
issued for the conversion, effective
about September 15, 1940, of the
369th Infantry regiment to the
369th Coast Artillery (anti-aircraft)
and an increase of the officer per-
sonnel from 48 to 60 officers.

"Negotiations are under way to
convert the Eighth Illinois infantry
(less Third battalion) into a 155-
mm. howitzer or gun regiment,
while the 369th Infantry is being
converted into a combat troop.

"No suggestion has been made at
any time, either by the National
Guard bureau, or by the state con-
cerned, to convert existing colored
infantry units of the national guard
into labor troops.

"Regulations have been amend-
ed so that the term 'colored' will
not be used as an inseparable part
of a colored unit's designation.

"At present there is authoriza-
tion for the enlistment of 304 addi-
tional colored applicants. As soon
as the number of new colored units
to be formed has been definitely
determined, the enlistment of addi-
tional colored personnel will, un-
doubtedly, be authorized. Colored
troops or detachments are stationed
at points indicated below:

"Twenty-fourth infantry, Fort
Benning, Ga.; Twenty-fifth infan-
try, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Ninth
cavalry, Fort Riley, Kans.; Tenth
cavalry, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.;
Tenth cavalry, Fort Myer, Va.;
Tenth cavalry, U. S. Military acad-
emy, West Point, N. Y.; Cavalry

detachment, Fort Sill, Okla.; Army
War college detachment, Washing-
ton, D. C.; Engineer school detach-
ment, Fort Belvoir, Va.; Forty-
eighth Quartermaster regiment, Ft.

Bragg, N. C.; Forty-eighth Quarter-
master regiment, Fort Benning, Ga.;
Forty-eighth Quartermaster regi-
ment, Fort Knox, Ky.; Forty-eighth
Quartermaster regiment, Fort Sheri-
dan, Ill.; Forty-seventh Quarter-
master regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.;
Forty-seventh Quartermaster regi-
ment, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"Small colored medical detach-
ments are also located at the U. S.
Military academy, West Point, N. Y.,
and Fort Huachuca, Ariz."

Negro Youths Barred From Joining Army

SEP 12 1940
This is another episode in the same
old story. It always starts, "We have
no room for colored." The place, this
time, is 607 Custom House, where
three boys were refused admission to
the Army Tuesday at the Army re-
cruiting station, Philadelphia.
The boys—James Calvin, 2420
Forrest street, Kansas City, Kan.,
Jerry Leary, 18, 5543 Pearl street, and
Charles Bernhardt, 18, 642 North 56th
street—were sent to a room
for colored by a recruiting sergeant,
while 75 white boys were accepted.

Leary is a sophomore at West Phi-
ladelphia High School; while Bern-
hardt is a sophomore at Overbrook
High School and Calvin is a graduate
of Lincoln High School in Kansas
City, Kansas. Calvin came to Phila-
delphia because he couldn't enlist in
Kansas City.

U. S. Army Calls No Race Reserve Officers

Some Believe
White Men To
Command Troops
SEP 28 1940

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—

The fact that no colored Reserve officers had been called to active duty with the United States Army in the training of the thousands of Negro men to be drafted for service with the armed forces up until noon Tuesday was revealed to the Journal and Guide just before it went to press this week.

In well-informed quarters the belief is prevalent that no colored Reserve officers will be detailed to duty with existing organizations or with new regiments the War Department plans to organize.

WHITES BEING CALLED

On the other hand, thousands of white officers of the Reserve Corps are either on active duty with the Regular Army or are being called to such duty to provide the necessary additional commissioned personnel.

Reserve officers are chiefly the product of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps in colleges and universities. Howard and Wilberforce universities are the only colored institutions with senior R. O. T. C. units. Both have infantry units. Reserve officers who have been commissioned from these two units are qualified for duty with infantry regiments only.

RESERVE OFFICERS

Graduates of Reserve Officers' Training Corps are being used as platoon commanders in the Regular Army in connection with the increment of enlisted men added under the Army expansion program.

Corps area commanders canvassed all eligible Reserve officers in their corps areas to determine how many would accept the duty and quotas allocated for each arm and service were filled with the

results of that canvass. Only white officers were accepted. 4,300 AUTHORIZED

The Army expansion act of April 3, 1939, authorized 4,300 Reserve officers to be put on extended active duty with the Regular Army, 3,000 with the Air Corps, and 1,000 under the Thomas act which permits second lieutenants of the Reserve Corps to receive a year's training with units of the Regular Army.

At the time the act of April 3, 1939, became law there was an actual need of 16,719 commissioned officers for an army of 210,000 men. The General Staff proposed to attain that strength within 10 years, but, in the meantime, to use Reserve officers to fill the shortage in Regular officers.

There are several hundred colored Reserve officers who are available for duty with the Regular Army. They have attended 14-day periods of active duty training in special camps or spent active-duty periods with units of Citizens' Military Training Corps. There is no indication, however, that they will be called to perform extended active duty with the units of the Regular Army.

RESERVE OFFICERS DOCTORS REJECTED

No colored Reserve officers, who are doctors, are being accepted for duty with either the Medical or Dental Corps. Those who have signified their willingness to accept assignments to duty have been informed that there are no units to which they may be detailed for duty.

A survey of the naval forces shows that there is no change in naval policy with respect to colored men. The present policy of the Navy permits the enlistment of colored men in the Messman Branch only and in the rating of mess attendant, third class. In that branch they are given no opportunity for advancement beyond officer's cooks and officer's steward, which are less than petty officer ratings.

BARRED FROM MARINE CORPS

On June 30, last, there were 4,007 colored men in the Navy, of whom eight were chief commissary stewards, seven were ma-

chinist mates, nine were ships' cooks, and one was a musician. The other held ratings in the messman branch. In the Marine Corps colored men are still barred from enlisting.

**SKILLED
NEGROES
TURNED
DOWN**

SEP 28 1940

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26—Despite its pronouncements, the National Defense Advisory Commission has not yet taken any steps to facilitate the equitable employment of colored workers on national defense contracts.

In the meantime, charges of discrimination against colored workers continue to reach the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program.

SKILLS OF NEGROES NOT RECOGNIZED

John T. Clark, executive secretary of the Urban League of St. Louis, Mo., has advised the participation committee that steps have been taken in that city to bring the issue of the inclusion of colored persons in the national defense program to the attention of local authorities.

"Invariably our local authorities do not recognize that Negroes have any skills," he writes.

"We have worked out a list to refute any arguments which might be brought up here that Negroes cannot be used in important work because they have no skills. Practically all of these men are idle and are immediately available.

"We do not say that these men are first-rate mechanics, but they have had enough experience to be easily incorporated in any kind of manufacturing process."

Another charge of discrimination comes from Dr. Allen F. Jackson, president of the Hartford Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Hartford, Conn.

WHITE BOYS HIRED, TRAINED, NEGROES IGNORED

"Here in Hartford, I regret very much to say, we are faced with the problem of discrimination by some of the factories that are working on United States Government contracts," writes Dr. Jackson.

"Negroes who are experienced machinists are being refused employment while white men and boys who have had no training in this work are being hired and trained later. Needless to say, colored men who apply for enlistment in the branches of military service are not accepted."

Lewis Raps Defense "Color Line"

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3. (ANP)—In a letter to Dr. Rayford W. Logan, chairman of the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program, John L. Lewis, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, emphatically declared against discrimination against Negroes in the National Defense program, where labor is concerned. Said Mr. Lewis:

"I should like to take this occasion to express to you my own personal and official support of the efforts of your committee to prevent discrimination against Negroes in the National Defense program. The C.I.O. and Labor's Non-Partisan League have already carried on much work in cooperation with the National Negro Congress in behalf of such a position.

"The C.I.O. has always been strongly opposed to discrimination against Negroes. It has not only stated such opposition, but it has refused to allow such discrimination to arise within its own ranks."

THE N.A.A.C.P.

OCT 12 1940

The recent resolution passed by the N.A.A.C.P.'s board of directors pledging legal aid to any American citizen who is denied the privilege of enlisting in the U. S. Army or Navy on account of race or color is of great significance. It should shock defense officials into the realism of the situation.

Besides its legal implications, the resolution serves as a timely warning to the nation that the Negro will not surrender his rights even in times of national emergency without some opposition.

The circumstances that fostered the passage of the resolution are of themselves a grave indictment against American democracy. At a time when national unity, so vital to the security of our shores, should be the keystone in the superstructure that is being built for defense, Washington officials are busy devising means for uniformed enforcement of discrimination against the largest racial minority in America.

Out of what this unity of the people is to be forged? Is it something that can be achieved through the magic of clever, deceiving slogans? Can it come by the way of military conscription? Or will it be accomplished by pursuing the totalitarian method of intimidation, concentration camp and mass murder? Surely Army and Navy officials must have some secret formula which would hasten the process of national cohesion at the propitious hour. Whatever that formula may be, whether it is an ingenious use of chemicals of explosive bullets it will merely implement and neighten measures already in operation.

Secretary of the War Stimson's letter to the N.A.A.C.P., indicates in bold outline the unwillingness of the war department to forego its traditional discriminatory practices even in a crisis of major proportion. He says:

"The success of the National Defense Program can best be established by united support of the War Department plans, which have been worked out after years of study by those who have devoted their lives to these questions."

Is not the inference clear that systematic discrimination against the Negro is among the War Department plans "which have been worked out

... by those who have devoted their lives to these questions?"

Stimson's letter goes on:

"Unity can be destroyed by attempting to establish a program which is contrary to the War Department's plans, by those who are not familiar either with the principles involved or the requirements of such plans."

If the democratic program of the N.A.A.C.P. is "contrary to the war department's plans," it follows then that the War Department is pursuing an undemocratic course which Mr. Stimson would want us to support under the plea of unity.

This is not only audacity, but a brazen disregard of the requirements of democracy especially in this critical hour. The Secretary of the Navy is no less obstinate in his attitude toward the Negro. As the publisher of the Chicago Defender—Mr. John H. Sengstacke—queries elsewhere in this issue, "Is this democracy? Is this discrimination building the national unity which we must have to defend our country adequately?"

Are we being asked to fight and die for a democracy which is denied us even in time of peace?

PHYSICAL FITNESS AND THEIR COURAGE CAN'T BE QUESTIONED

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—Negroes in the United States have amply demonstrated their fitness and the United States Army Air Corps should abolish its color line, the Chicago Tribune, most widely-circulated full-size newspaper in America, thundered in an editorial, "The Negro Pilot," last Thursday morning.

The Chicago Tribune, styled the "World's Greatest Newspaper," is the most powerful journalistic influence in the Midwest.

Neither President Roosevelt, the War Department, the Navy nor Army and Navy chiefs, can afford to ignore the challenge to fair-play as expressed in the Tribune editorial.

Taking cognizance of recent statements made by Army Chief of Staff, General Marshall, to the effect that there is no such thing as Negro aviation at this time, the Tribune bluntly asserts that to bar Negroes from aviation is a fundamental mistake. It insists that a change of policy be effected.

feated by bureaucratic buck-passing. This is said not only in protest against discrimination but also in recognition of the very large contribution to national defense which may be expected of Negro pilots.

The first requisite of a military flyer is quick nervous responses. He should have a superior sense of balance, excellent muscular co-ordination, a good sensory apparatus, a sound body. In short, the qualities which make a good athlete are required of a flyer. Of course he should have physical and moral courage as well. In all of these qualifications Negroes have given ample demonstration of their fitness. A race which has produced, in the span of a few years, Joe Louis, Henry Armstrong, Jesse Owens, Jefferson of Northwestern, Ozzie Simmons of Iowa, a substantial number of Golden Gloves champions, and a score of other absolutely top-notch athletes, provides a rich resource which ought not to be lost to the country through prejudice. In the face of this roster of world champions the physical fitness and courage of their race cannot be questioned by any reasonable man.

The record suggests that the country would lose less by refusing to train Harvard, Yale and Princeton men for the flying corps than by refusing to train

Negroes.

For more than two years, The Courier, which began the fight to obtain equality in the defense services for Negroes, has been hammering away. Influential white leaders were shocked when they first learned of the discrimination against patriotic Negro citizens.

This discrimination has its base in an Army and Navy caste system which would make servants out of black citizens. The Army aristocracy is so strong that Congress hesitates to take action to break it up, and democratize our defense forces. 8-17-40

Even the President of the United States, fully informed of the restrictions placed on Negro citizens, has neglected to act. Sought for a conference recently to discuss Negro participation in the defense program, a secretary replied that the President was too busy.

Thirty-eight years ago, another Roosevelt sat in the White House.

A Warning

EDITOR'S NOTE — General Marshall's statement contained herein shows that the army men are just playing around. Lieut. James Peck, in his "Armies With Wings," describes the training of aviators as the "bottleneck" in the aviation program. All our available men who can make good flyers should be trained, according to Lieutenant Peck. College training is not a requisite, he asserts. He agrees with the Chicago Tribune, in the adjoining editorial, that Negroes would supply the United States with a vast reservoir of flyers if the color bar were removed.

White citizens of Indianola, Miss., forced Mrs. Minnie Cox, colored postmistress of the town, to flee to protect her life. They wanted a white postmistress. 8-17-40

That other Roosevelt took time out to call a meeting of his cabinet, which he informed of his decision to close the postoffice until the term of Mrs. Cox expired. Indianola whites were thus forced to go nearly thirty miles for their mail for the next year. 8-17-40

But, with our country, our democracy and our civilization in peril, and with Negroes clamoring to serve their country, neither the President nor the Congress can be forced to take appropriate action.

The Chicago Tribune editorial indicates that it wants the kind of action in 1940 that the original Roosevelt took in 1902. If a few swivel-chair generals were smashed the Army color-line would go with them.

The Tribune editorial follows:

NEGRO PILOTS

At a recent hearing of the house appropriations committee, Representative Ludlow of Indiana called attention to a recent act of Congress requiring that facilities be made available for the training of Negro airplane pilots for the army. Asked by Mr. Ludlow what had been done to carry out this mandate, General Marshall, chief of staff, replied that "there is no such thing as colored aviation at this time." He suggested that the start should be made by the Civil Aeronautics Authority.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Ludlow will see to it that the intention of Congress is not de-

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 DISCRIMINATION

HILLMAN ASKED TO OPEN WAY FOR NEGRO WORKERS

7-27-40

WASHINGTON, July 25.—Formulation by the National Defense Advisory Commission of a policy to wipe out racial discrimination in the employment of workers in industries essential to national defense is sought by the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program.

The aim of the committee is to lessen barriers against the employment of colored persons as both skilled and unskilled laborers in national defense industries, whether due to employment policies of management or membership policies of labor unions.

DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE IS RULED OUT

William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard Law School, who served as adviser to the committee in this matter, at first considered the question of whether the committee should request the National Defense Advisory Commission to insert in Government contracts with national defense industries a provision against discrimination in the employment of labor because of race, creed or color.

The Comptroller General, however, had ruled that there is no statutory authority for the inclusion of a "non-discrimination" clause in a Government construction contract for the performance of public work, and that such a clause might be converted into a discrimination clause by giving preference to persons of one color over persons of another.

RECOMMENDS ADVISORY COMMISSION POLICY

Mr. Hastie recommended that the committee request the National Defense Advisory Commission to declare its opposition to racial discrimination in employment for production for the national defense, and to make a study of "persuasive and coercive procedures" it may adopt to end such practice.

The request was embodied in letters sent to both William S. Knaudsen, member of the National

Defense Advisory Commission in charge of production, and Sidney Hillman, member of the Commission in charge of labor problems and labor training. Both letters were identical. Their text follows:

"It is a matter of great and immediate concern to Negro citizens throughout the country that Negro workmen, skilled as well as unskilled, be given employment without racial discrimination in those industrial establishments manufacturing, constructing and producing for national defense under Government contracts. Both employment policies of management and membership policies of labor unions have been and are in many cases the means of discriminating against Negro labor.

"We ask, therefore, that the National Defense Advisory Commission establish and announce that as a matter of policy it opposes racial discrimination in employment for production for the national defense, and will use such means as are at its disposal to prevent and eliminate such discrimination.

"We also urge that the Commission make an immediate study of persuasive and coercive procedures at its disposal to the end that it may act effectively in opposition to such discrimination against Negro labor.

"Both because of the immediacy of the problem and the grave concern of the Negro public, we request that this matter receive your attention promptly."

Another development was the request of the Work Projects Administration by the Committee on Participation of Negroes for consideration of the needs of colored people in providing work and training as both skilled and unskilled

laborers.

ASK WPA TO IMPLEMENT POLICY

In this connection the committee submitted three suggestions to Col. F. C. Harrington, commissioner of the Work Projects Administration. The first related to proportionate employment of colored persons on Army and Navy projects. The second involved an equitable division of funds provided for the training of national defense workers, and the third had to do with equal job opportunities.

The text of the letter to Colonel Harrington follows:

"In connection with the co-operation of the Work Projects Administration in the National Defense Program, it is hoped that consideration will be given to the needs of Negroes in providing work and training as both skilled and unskilled laborers. To that end the following suggestions are submitted for your consideration:

"1. That Negroes be given work in proportion to their numbers

on WPA rolls on projects operated directly by the War and Navy Departments with funds transferred from WPA and on projects which are sponsored by the War and Navy Departments, but which are operated by the WPA within its programs in the various States.

"2. That funds for training national defense workers be spent in equitable proportions for the training of Negroes.

"3. That Negro workers be given an equal opportunity to secure a share of the increased employment resulting from the National Defense Program.

"This committee desires to be of aid to the Federal Government in carrying out the National Defense Program, and will be glad to co-operate with the Work Projects Administration in any way it can."

DENY RACE LINE EXISTS

Sec'y of Navy Asked
About Service On the
Seas; Claim Negroes
Exceed Quota

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 6.—The matter of the position of the colored American in the Army, Navy and Flying Corps of the United States came up before the House appropriations committee when it considered the second national defense appropriation bill for 1941.

Efforts were made by officials appearing before the committee to establish that the Negro have his proportion of army strength. They set forth that Negroes volunteer for service in large numbers and that there is a waiting list among them for enlistment.

Representative Louis Ludlow (D. Ind.) asked Gen. George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, about complaints concerning the training of colored enlistees for the armed service. He inquired also whether a resent act of congress calling for transfer of material for training of Negro pilots had been complied with.

"In the first place," Gen. Marshall replied, "in the colored organizations, a much larger percentage of men reenlist than occurs in the white organizations. The result is that there are very few vacancies for new soldiers as compared with the vacancies in white organizations.

"In other words, it takes no recruiting effort at all to find the men for the colored organizations. There is even a waiting list.

MINORITIES WILL BE HELPLESS IF BILL IS PASSED

Power of Army Would
Replace Ballot Power,
Labor Leader Says

By A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
NEW YORK. — Universal, military, compulsory conscription is unnecessary in times of peace. If enacted by the Congress of the United States, it will sound the death knell of American democracy.

It is the essence of totalitarianism. It means the regimentation of our social, economic and political life. Under it, minority groups will be helpless to prosecute and fight for democratic rights and privileges.

Questions of the enactment of the anti-lynching law, abolition of the poll tax and white primaries, suppression of the Ku Klux Klan, will all be subordinate to the one big cause of American militarism.

Universal, compulsory, military conscription will not solve one problem of unemployment, but will disrupt the orderly processes of our industrial and economic life.

No Protection

Under it, anybody may be snatched from his job, business or profession and placed in some military unit under the guise of the necessity of national defense.

It will paralyze and break up the trade union movement, because it will sweep away all the safeguards of collective bargaining.

Strikes will be outlawed, picketing curbed and the freedom of individuals to pursue their ways of life will be definitely curtailed and subjected to a militarized political and industrial system.

If the Congress enacts this bill for universal, military conscription, it means that the citizen will be subordinated to the soldier and the voice of the army will be more powerful than that of the ballot.

This bill to conscript the manpower of the nation should be defeated. This does not mean that preparedness is not necessary. The nation should be prepared completely and adequately, but the American people should set their faces definitely toward the preservation of their social and labor gains, opposition to America's script labor, we conscript wealth.

Race Excluded In \$3,000,000 Gov't Program

Citizens Denounce Local Authority's "Punishment"

SEP 14 1940

Portsmouth Bureau

The possibility that colored citizens will share in the federal government's current housing program in Portsmouth seemed extremely remote this week as the local housing authority went on with plans to build 100 new units for white occupancy with the remaining \$840,000 of government money allotted for the city program.

Originally the local housing authority planned to spend the \$840,000 strictly for slum clearance purposes in colored areas. The announcement that the remaining money would be spent on units for white occupancy followed closely on the local authority's decision to abandon the Elm Ave.-Gosport Road site for a 200-unit project for white occupancy after colored home owners of that area had objected to selling their homes and moving out. The local authority denies that its decision to spend the \$840,000 on white units rather than for slum clearance in colored areas as a "punishment" to colored citizens who objected to the 200-unit site.

According to present plans there will be built 600 new units in the emergency housing program in Portsmouth. The housing authority has intimated that all units will be for white occupancy.

CHANGE PLANS

When the local housing authority began operation of the housing program in July, their plans called for the erection of 500 units for emergency housing. The first 300 of these units would be for white occupancy and the second project of 200 units was to be for colored occupancy. After plans for the first project were definitely under way, the authority made the startling announcement that the units of project number two would also be for white. The authority explained that "the Navy Department has requested 500 housing units for white navy yard workers."

At that time the Journal and Gудie was assured by Atty. Clyde W. Cooper, secretary of the local authority, that the remaining \$840,000 would be spent on slum clearance in colored sections.

The authority's announcement last week that plans would again be changed to allow the remaining money to be spent on white housing units was explained in the familiar statement that "the Navy Department has requested that 100 more units would be needed for white navy yard workers."

HOUSING CONDITIONS

The housing authority has not expressed concern over housing conditions of hundreds of colored men currently employed at the local navy yard nor has there been any provisions made for others who might come here when approximately 7,000 more men are taken on at the yard in the execution of the national defense program.

Mr. Cooper explained that the great need now at the navy yard is for skilled workers and that there are few skilled workers among colored people, hence, the new housing units would be for white workers.

After the housing authority announced that the Elm Avenue site would be abandoned and that the remaining money would be spent for new white units, approximately 600 colored citizens attended a special meeting and endorsed petitions denouncing the local authority's "punishment" of colored citizens and requesting justice in the federal government's housing program in Portsmouth.

The meeting was called by Dr. Charles E. Stewart, pastor of Emanuel AME Church, who also authored the petitions which were addressed to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Oliver C. Winston, regional director of the United States Housing Authority, and local housing authority.

Despite current indications, colored citizens generally are hoping that there might be another "change of plans" to allow some of the emergency housing units to be erected for colored occupancy.

In discussing the reason that the local authority selected the Elm Avenue-Gosport Road area as the site for project No. two, Mr. Cooper stated that the plan was to revert those units over for colored occupancy when the housing emergency here is past. He pointed out that the site was so located as to make the proposed new area practical for either white or colored occupancy. Objections of citizens of both races to the site prompted the authority to abandon it and to seek another location for project number two.

Time Magazine a Help to Hitler

With most U.S. journals emphasizing national unity in the face of Hitler's threats to our safety, snooty Time magazine prints with boastful pride the following sentences:

"In the U.S. . . . white enlisted soldiers often refused to salute colored officers."

"Today while recruiting officers are beating the bushes for white soldiers, colored applicants are clogged up on a waiting list. There is no place for them."

"No colored person has ever served in the army air corps or the U.S. marine corps, and the navy now recruits black men only for mess attendants."

"In 1940's regular army there are five colored officers. Three of them are chaplains and two combat officers."

"One, Colonel B. O. Davis, has spent thirty-nine years . . . on such details as . . . professor . . . in colored colleges."

"The other, Lieutenant B. O. Davis, Jr., graduated 35th in his class of 276 at the Military Academy . . . could not hope to command white officers in peace-time army . . . is instructor . . . at Tuskegee . . ."

To Hitler agents in this country, race-hating Time magazine is a great help. It saves them considerable research against the time when Nazi planes shall fly over our cities dropping leaflets to encourage the colored population to become slackers and fifth columnists. They need prepare no propaganda of their own. They have merely to scatter reprinted pages from Time.

Mobile, Ala., Forum Sun
Sept. 6, 1940-
PROTESTS BEATING

NEW YORK—In a note sent to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson this week, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People launched a vigorous protest over the violent treatment accorded a Negro teacher by officials in a Charlotte, N.C., army recruiting office, when he sought to obtain information about the enlistment of Negroes in the army.

According to the NAACP, Edward H. Brown, a teacher at a local Negro high school in Charlotte, sought to find out why several of his former pupils had been denied an opportunity to enlist in the army at the local recruiting station, situated in the Charlotte, N.C., post office. His refusal to accept their state-

ment without further explanation, brought him a severe beating at the hands of the local recruiting men.

xxXXxx
YOUTH ADMINISTRATOR
IS SPEAKER AT BUSINESS
MEET

DETROIT—Aubrey Williams, administrator of the National Youth Administration, was one of the principle speakers at the mass meeting of the National Negro Business League here August 29.

Each year this organization composed of Negro business men and those interested in the business progress of Negroes, devotes one evening of its convention to what is popularly known as Founder's Night. The attendance at the Detroit Convention represented business men and leaders from practically every state in the nation.

Huntsville, Ala., Times
September 29, 1940

Negroes To Take Court Action On Enlistments

NEW YORK, Sept. 28 (AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today that it would take court action "to compel the Army or Navy" to accept enlistment of men "refused the privilege on account of race or color."

Such actions, should they become necessary in the organization's opinion, would be taken against the Secretary of War or the Secretary of the Navy, the association said.

The resolution was passed, the association said, following an exchange of correspondence between the organization, Secretary of War Stimson and the Navy department.

Stimson was quoted in his reply as stating that 17 additional negro units had been authorized, while the Navy said it had adopted the policy of enlisting "men of the colored race" only as mess-men.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 DISCRIMINATION

Bar Jim-Crowism In Aircraft Industry;

New York Times
Only One Negro Hired Out Of 60,000 Men

LOS ANGELES (CNA)—"A Negro has one chance in 60,000 of getting a job in an aircraft factory."

"Racial discrimination in this and other key industries in Los Angeles has forced from 50 to 65 per cent of the Negro population here to depend on some form of relief."

These facts were revealed this week by the National Negro Congress Los Angeles Council.

At the same time, the NNC, through its executive secretary, Robert S. Robinson released an exchange of correspondence between the NNC and leading aircraft corporations, fully substantiating its charges.

Two huge corporations, depending largely on "national defense" government contracts for their rapidly expanding business, refused even to discuss their Jim Crow policies. Three others hedged on the question, and another stated flatly that it would hire only "Caucasians." This Jim-Crow policy has created a situation where by Nazi spies have held key positions in many aircraft plants, according to recent discoveries, thus endangering the defenses of this country, while black Americans have been barred from employment in these plants.

The Negro Congress this week persuaded the county board of supervisors to memorialize Congress against continuing to pour government funds into these companies. The federal government has been heavily subsidized the aircraft industry with huge loans for expansion.

The Negro Congress has also appealed to labor and to all persons opposed to "un-American practices of racial discrimination," to send their protests to Congress and to California's two senators.

"Caucasians" Only

In letters addressed to Northrop, Vultee, Lockheed, North American, Douglas Aircraft corporations and to Douglas' El Segundo divi-

sion, the Negro Congress stated:

"It has been called to our attention that there are no Negroes at present employed by your company in the construction of aircraft to be used in our country's program of defense.

"We are aware that you have more than doubled your personnel during the past eight months to meet the demands of millions of dollars in orders placed by the United States Government. We are loyal citizens and supporters of this country's financial burdens; we have contributed our share to our country's economic development; therefore we feel justified in expecting equal opportunities in employment, especially where that employment is made available through our government. There are many Negro residents in this community who meet every requirement to hold skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled jobs in the aircraft industry. May we therefore urge you to avail yourselves immediately of their services."

Vultee Aircraft, Inc., in a letter signed by W. Gerard Tuttle, manager of industrial relations, replied:

"This will acknowledge your letter of July 25, calling our attention to the fact that there are many Negro residents available for employment in this industry. I regret to say that it is not the policy of this company to employ people other than of the Caucasian race, consequently, we are not in a position to offer your people employment at this time."

Wagner Amendment

SENATOR WAGNER succeeded in passing an amendment to the selective draft bill prohibiting racial discrimination in the military branches of the government. It is hoped that the amendment will be adopted by the House of Representatives when the measure reaches the floor for final vote.

The amendment is praiseworthy. Everyone knows that the army, navy and air corps are seething with a wicked kind of racial discrimination which finds its counterpart in the deep, deep South.

When the United States Senate passed that amendment it indicated that the senators were cognizant of the weakness of our democracy and attempted to cure them. It showed further that the senators recognized the fact that heretofore Negroes have not had a square deal in the armed forces of the nation. They knew that colored soldiers have been consistently discriminated against. They knew that the Air corps prevent a dark face from being a jet flyer. The Congressional records have revealed that the colored sailor is the flunky for the Navy and is deprived of all those rights and chances for advancement that are accorded to white sailors. The senators also know that no other group in America has been as loyal to its country as the Negroes. They knew that black soldiers have carried the American flag with honor and distinction in many wars in which the United States was a belligerent. They knew, too, that the Negro press has consistently hammered away on the discriminatory policies that are practiced in the army and navy of our government toward Negroes. Perhaps all of these facts were instrumental in compelling them to pass such a necessary amendment or perhaps the coming election that may be decided by the Negro voters had considerable weight in their determination.

We are certain that the law in itself will not cure the evils. Laws are like that. Somebody must enforce them. If the executive branch of the government is lukewarm toward the idea of equality it is likely that the law will be ignored. Then the Negro must demand with all the power he has that the law be obeyed according to its letter and

spirit. It so happens that when laws are made to prevent an evil those who advocated such a law are quick to forget the cause for which they were fighting and the acts which occasioned the law continue to exist.

If the House passes a similar amendment to the military selective draft bill, the law will be effective in the direct ratio that the vigilance of Negroes urge its obedience.

IS THE WAR DEPARTMENT AFRAID OF NEGRO RACE?

SEP 8 1940

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5—(AP)—Of what is the war department afraid since it handles the Negro military problem with such delicacy and precision, refusing to obey the mandates of congress as far as the Negro is concerned with regard to aviation training for Negroes—and with the limited, emasculated regular army forces and the equally emasculated national guard?

Sen. Arthur Vandenberg, able senator from the state of Michigan brought this forcibly to the attention of his fellow senators when in debating against the Wadsworth-Burke conscription bill said:

"How about the thousands of patriotic colored citizens of the United States who cannot get into volunteer service at all because so relatively few units are provided for them? Under date of Aug. 5, the secretary of war writes me regarding this question as follows:

"A large portion of the colored men who enlist in the army make the service a life-time career. For this reason there is a comparatively low turn-over in colored organizations, and consequently, comparatively a small number of openings for original enlistments at any one time. The question of the formation of additional colored units is under study in the war department."

"Here is a great sector of our people which can scarcely chisel

its volunteer way into a service, which when it has had a chance it has always sustained with great devotion. We are advised that there is a small number of openings for original enlistments and that the opening up of these volunteer opportunities is now 'under study'."

In the house at the same time, Rep. Patrick of Alabama gave statistics to show that enlistments were higher in the South than in the North, citing the fact that in New York state with a population well over 12,000,000 there were only 7,013 volunteers in the first six months, while in the state of Texas, with a population of a little over 5,000,000, there were 6,648 volunteers in the same period.

No explanation of this variance was given, but the general consensus of opinion is that the cosmopolitan nature of the New York population, with its millions of aliens and foreign-born citizens, sympathies generally run toward the "mother-country"—and over half of the millions of New York state are concentrated in the narrow confines of New York city, where in some sections, one does not hear English spoken at all.

WAR DEPARTMENT DROPS TERM "COLORED" FOR RACE UNITS

Guardian
NEW YORK—War Department regulations "have been amended so that the term 'colored' will not be used as an inseparable part of a colored unit's designation," according to information the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has received from the War Department.

Boston Mass.
This information was contained in a letter sent to the Association July 27 by Major General Emory S. Adams in response to N.A.A.C.P. protests launched with President Roosevelt, former Secretary of War Harry Woodring, and Governor Herbert Lehman of New York. It referred specifically to the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard and the 8th Infantry Illinois National Guard. The N.A.A.C.P. had protested to President Roosevelt against the War Department's new regulation designing these army units as "colored," in a letter sent to the Chief Executive, June 13. A similar protest was sent to the then Secretary of War, Harry Woodring.

Major General Adams denied a report that those army units would be discontinued as combat units and placed in the category of labor battalions. He said the 369th will be changed to the 369th Coast Artillery in charge of anti-aircraft work, and the 8th Illinois Infantry converted into a 155 mm gun regiment, both combat units.

The statement denying the labor battalion report, confirmed a telegram sent to the N.A.A.C.P., June 10 by Governor Herbert H. Lehman, of New York, in which he also denied the report, pointing out that he himself had asked that the two national guard units be designated as anti-aircraft units because of his high regard for these regiments.

The War Department also said that it has authorized the acceptance of 304 colored applicants for enlistment to date. The complete text of the letter follows:

"Reference is made to your recent telegram in regard to a rumor that the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard, and the 8th Infantry Illinois National Guard, are to be made labor units. Reference is also made to your letter to the President, which has been referred to this office for reply.

8-10-40
"Instructions have already been issued for the conversion, effective about September 15, 1940, of the 369th Infantry Regiment to the 369th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft) and an increase of 48 to 60 officers from 48 to 60. Negotiations are under way to convert the 8th Illinois Infantry (less 3rd Battalion) into a

155-mm howitzer or gun regiment, GHQ Reserve. Both the anti-aircraft regiment and the field artillery regiment are combat troops. No suggestion has been made at any time, either by the National Guard Bureau, or by the state concerned, to convert existing colored infantry units of the National Guard into "labor" troops.

"Regulations have been amended so that the term 'colored' will not be used as an inseparable part of a colored unit's designation.

"At present there is authorization for the enlistment of 304 additional colored applicants. As soon as the number of new colored units to be formed has been definitely determined, the enlistment of additional colored personnel will, undoubtedly, be authorized. Colored troops or detachments are stationed at points indicated below:

"24th Infantry, Fort Benning, Georgia; 25th Infantry, Fort Huachuca, Arizona; 9th Cavalry, Fort Riley, Kansas; 10th Cavalry, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; 10th Cavalry, Fort Myer, Virginia; 10th Cavalry, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York; Cavalry Detachment, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.; Field Artillery School Detachment, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Army War College Detachment, Washington, D. C.; Engineer School Detachment, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; 48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; 48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Benning, Georgia; 48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Knox, Kentucky; 48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Sheridan, Illinois; 47th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Lewis, Washington; 47th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"Small colored medical detachments are also located at the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, and Fort Huachuca, Arizona."

Rank Discrimination *Washington Tribune* Charged in Defense

Program at Navy Yard

Washington, D.C.
Perturbed over the raw deal being handed colored persons engaged in government service under the New Deal, Washington agencies are preparing cases of unwarranted discrimination to present to Dr. Robert C. Weaver, recently named to assist in integrating Negroes into the training and industrial phases of the national defense program.

Two persons with allegations of

unfair practices due to race prejudice were among those who assembled at the Urban League office, 1538 New Jersey Avenue, Northwest, Thursday, to air grievances against the apparent general policy of excluding or shunting of Negroes aside in U.S.-controlled agencies while the government seeks national defense coordination.

One complainant was Clayton Lang, employed as helper in the Navy Yard, where he has reportedly worked satisfactorily for the past six years. He has completed all examinations to become a joiner and on July 8 was called for physical tests which are given only to those ready for appointments. Mr. Lang was assigned to the Naval Observatory and told that he would be notified within ten days to begin work.

Papers Held Up

After more than the usual time has elapsed, inquiries at the labor board in the Navy Yard brought the reply that Mr. Lang's papers are being held up in the Navy Department.

C. Herbert Marshall, president of the local NAACP, wrote Secretary of the Navy Frank W. Knox prior to the meeting, saying, "We have evidence to believe that such delay is indicative of racial discrimination."

Another appearing was William Gross, employed in the building and trades shop of the Navy Yard as joiner since 1938. Mr. Gross stated that on July 15 he was told by James Minot, white, master mechanic, building and trades shop No. 11, "that he had been too technical about his employment and that if he and his helper could not carry the pump, he would have to go out on leave, that he wanted him (Gross) to get some other place in the government."

Is Disabled War Vet

Mr. Gross is a disabled war veteran and was hospitalized at the Veterans' Hospital, Tuskegee, for

five years, 1920-1925. His record in the War Department as a carpenter is of the highest order, and he has valuable letters attesting to his character and the high quality of work performed.

Mr. Gross was advised to stick to his job under all circumstances. If the allegations are true, agreed George W. Goodman, Urban League secretary, and Dr. Marshall such attitude by any superior toward men working under him is not conducive to good order and discipline.

The NAACP has already written Admiral George Pettengill, commandant of the Navy Yard, stating, "It is apparent that this employee has been unnecessarily put on the spot, and his loyalty to the country and the health sacrifices he has already made in his country's behalf seem to amount to nothing."

Persons experiencing discrimination in government jobs are urged to communicate with the Urban League office or with the NAACP, 1011 U Street, Northwest.

**Discrimination
Journal & Guide
Barred By
7-27-40
Regulations
Norfolk, Va.
100,000 Persons
To Be Trained
Under Program**

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The rights of Negro citizens qualified and eligible for assignment to the \$17,281,000 nation-wide project for vocational training of defense workers are protected with regulations forbidding discrimination because of race, creed or color.

This announcement was made this week by Alfred Edgar Smith, staff adviser in the office of Fred R. Rauch, assistant commissioner of the Work Projects Administration who will direct WPA's share in the program.

The WPA project will provide training for approximately 100,000 persons and thus provide them with an increased knowledge of the skills necessary to speed up the total national defense program. The course of training will be given in established public vocational schools and related facilities during July, August and September.

OFFICE OF EDUCATION
CO-SPONSOR

Sponsored by the National Defense Advisory Commission the vast program will move forward with the U. S. Office of Education serving as co-sponsor. State and local school boards will be responsible for the actual conduct of the courses. The project will operate in states where the need is certified by the state director of vocational education.

The WPA will select and assign persons for training upon requisition from the vocational educational authorities, continuing to pay these workers during training course. Other qualified persons may be selected by public employment offices, but these will not be paid by WPA.

Vocational education, apprenticeship training and work experience mass production industries, even though such experience may not have been at an occupation requiring a high degree of skill, will be considered in selecting trainees.

TYPES OF TRAINING

Auto mechanics, machine shop workers, electricians, cabinet makers, draftsmen, sheet metal workers, welders, pattern makers, etc. experienced in the use of hand or machine tools, will be regarded as desirable applicants.

The same is true of persons whose manual skills include such crafts as wood working, mode building, repair and building of electrical and radio equipment in the home. Experience in repair and maintenance of farm machinery is likewise desirable.

FOLKS IN EAST WIN 'PLEA' FOR SEGREGATION

President O. K.'s Strange Request As Fellow-men Fight for Equality OCT-19-1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Pleading for segregation—a strange request for Negroes to sanction from the national government—a group of alleged "Race leaders" in the East received with enjoyment last Wednesday the War Department's policy to discriminate against the Negro in the preparation for national defense. President Roosevelt has ordered the War Department to put into effect immediately a program providing that the services of our Race will be utilized on a "fair and equitable basis" in the national defense set-up. The President, however, was somewhat reluctant to okay the plan, but when advised that it was the "wish and desire of Negro leaders," ordered the proposition to go forward "with that understanding and approval."

Segregation Demanded
Stephen Early, the President's press secretary, said the action followed a conference Mr. Roosevelt had September 27 with Negro leaders and Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, and Robert Patterson, assistant secretary of war. At this conference the Negro "leaders" advised the War Department heads that they were in full accord with any plan that would segregate their race in the armed forces of the nation, and that they felt sure that the segregation of white and colored troops in the expanded defense set-up would meet with the approval of the Race as a whole.

The request to be discriminated against came as a startling surprise to members of the army general staff when it was pointed out that in recent years the Negro has made such a diligent and conscientious fight to get colored boys in

West Point and Annapolis. However, the "eastern segregation plan" which had been disapproved and denounced by such national organizations as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "cured" a situation in the War Department, it is said, that had been very troublesome to high army officials ever since the national defense program took formal shape.

"How must we handle the Negro in this national defense program?" has been a question of serious moment around Washington. President Roosevelt, it was learned from authoritative sources, was unalterably opposed to any form of segregation in the armed forces. He thought that the War Department was perfectly capable of coping with the problem under its general setup, but was advised by Negro "leaders" that what "the Race wanted was entire separate units in every branch of the army makeup." He has granted the Negroes what they asked for: perfect discrimination. There can be no political finger of scorn pointed at him for his approval of the system.

The statement as given out for the "segregation plan" outlines this policy:

1. The strength of the Negro personnel of the army will be maintained on the basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country.

IN EACH SERVICE
2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.

3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by Negro personnel.

4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.

5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

6. At arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

7. The policy of the war department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proved satisfactory over a long period of years, and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense.

On the surface the plan appears as a gain in racial progress, but underneath the sugar-coating the bitterness is found: it places the Race on record for the first time in history as sanctioning and requesting discrimination and segregation from the national government. The Race will gain a few jobs, some needed schooling in the art of warfare, and a few high honors to individuals, but at the tremendous cost of Race principles that have been constitutionally sought for over fifty years. But President Roosevelt is not to be blamed. He gave the Negroes what they asked and pleaded for—Discrimination.

**DENIES APPROVING
WASHINGTON
ARMY JIM CROW
IN WIRE TO F.D.R.
wash. D.C.
Says Roosevelt Tries
To Cover Up Unfair
Treatment of Race**

NEW YORK—A statement from the White House October 9 implying that a committee of three persons, including Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., had approved a policy of segregation for Negro units in the Army, was repudiated and denounced here October 10 in a prompt telegram of protest to President Roosevelt.

The United Press account of the White House statement declared: "White House Secretary Early said the segregation policy was approved after Mr. Roosevelt had conferred with Walter White, president of the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People, and two other Negro leaders, etc."

This phraseology in the press was characterized by the NAACP as a "trick" to give the impression that Negroes had approved of the Army jim crow, and to remove the pressure from President Roosevelt as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy.

The telegram, signed by Mr. White, A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and T. Arnold Hill, formerly industrial secretary of the National Urban League and at present an assistant in the National Youth Administration, declared "in a written memorandum we submitted we specifically repudiated segregation."

Protest Approved
On the other points of policy enunciated by the White House statement, the telegram declared: "We most vigorously protest your approval of War Department policy regarding Negroes in armed forces which precludes Negro officers except chaplains and doctors in regard army units other than two national guard regiments staffed by Negro officers. We deny statement that 'at arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment.'"

"We ask proof that even one Negro is now being given aviation training as pilot in army air corps. As recently as October first nineteen forty the Adjutant General of the War Department wrote 'applications from colored persons for flying cadet appointments or for enlistment in the Air Corps are not being accepted.'"

"We further vigorously question your statement that morale is splendid in existing Negro units of the regular army. Many enlisted men in these segregated units have made repeated protests at being forced to serve as hostlers and servants to white army officers. We further question that jim crow policy of army 'has been proven satisfactory.' It has never been satisfactory nor is it now to Negro Americans. Such segregation has been destructive of morale and has permitted prejudiced superiors to exercise their bigotry on defenseless Negro regiments."

Shocked at Action
"We are inexpressibly shocked that a President of the United States at a time of national peril should surrender so completely to

enemies of Democracy who would destroy national unity by advocating segregation. Official approval by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of such discrimination and segregation is a stab in the back of Democracy. It is a tragic coincidence that you issued your statement on the same day the coup de grace was given by

Senate Majority Leader Alben Barkley to the Anti-Lynching Bill. The two acts are a double blow at the patriotism of twelve million Negro citizens."

The NAACP has sent a letter to its 600 branches, youth councils and college chapters urging active and continued protest against President Roosevelt's jim crow national defense policy. The letter asks action before election day to make the protests of Negro Americans most effective.

The NAACP announced that the whole section of policy dealing with Negro army officers was a plan to put Negro officers "on the skids" and eventually eliminate them altogether.

An important part of the NAACP protests and activity will be upon the employment of Negroes in arsenals, navy yards, and industrial plants which have been awarded contracts under the national defense program.

Army Jim Crow Daily Worker Insult to Negro New York N.Y. People -- Ford

OCT 14 1940
Candidate States FDR
Stamps His Approval
On Segregation

ASKS DRAFT REPEAL
Speaks at Third Rally
in One Day in New
Orleans

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 13. —The White House statement issued in behalf of President Roosevelt approving the segregation of Negro and white troops was characterized as "a degrading affront to the Negro people" by James W. Ford in an address last night before 200 Negro and white workers in the Second Mount Calvary Baptist Church. "The administration," he said, "has placed the official seal of approval for now and forever on Jim Crow and the relegation of Negro citizens to a position of inferiority."

Ford was sharply critical of Walter White, A. Philip Randolph and T. Arnold Hill, who indirectly defended or apologized for the administration's position in a statement issued by Mr. White in behalf of the other two conferees.

ASKS DRAFT REPEAL

"It is putting it mildly," Ford said, "to say that the White-Hill-Randolph statement is the apotheosis of Uncle Tomism."

Mr. Ford urged the Negro people to join with the peace forces of America to work for the repeal of the conscription law.

Excerpts from Mr. Ford's address follows:

"A United Press dispatch from Washington (Oct. 9), informs us that President Roosevelt has ap-

proved the system of segregating Negro and white troops in our country's armed forces and quotes Stephen Early, speaking for the President, as follows:

"The policy of the War Department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has proved satisfactory over a long period of years, and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for National Defense."

WHITE OFFICERS

"The White House statement further makes it clear that these Jim Crow regiments will be commanded, not by the colored reserve officers who have years of training behind them, but by white officers, as in 1917.

"This statement was issued following a conference between Mr. Roosevelt, Secretary Knox of the Navy Department, a top ranking official of the War Department, and three Negroes, Walter White, T. Arnold Hill and A. Philip Randolph. From the Negro press we learn a little more about this conference and its peculiar 'results.' Mr. White presented the administration with a memorandum containing seven or eight of the demands most commonly raised by the Negro people for equal opportunity and decent treatment in the armed forces, al-

though so politely phrased as not to embarrass Mr. Roosevelt and Col. Knox. The memorandum respectfully suggests that Negro recruits shall not be confined exclusively to menial work, especially in the Navy. It does not, so far as I can see, demand the end of Jim Crow in the Army.

"But even these modest demands were refused. As for the Navy, Col. Knox is quoted as saying he was 'sympathetic' but that the problem of taking colored men into the Navy on a basis of equality was 'insoluble' because 'men have to

live together on ships/ Col. Knox added with what we can charitably assume to be an attempt at humor that it would be impossible to divide the Navy into 'northern ships and southern ships.'

AFFRONT TO NEGROES

"No one can read the meager reports of this Washington conference without recognizing that not only did White and Randolph come away empty-handed; worse than that, the statement of the White House constituted a degrading affront to the Negro people. Nothing can conceal the fact that the administration used this conference to place the official seal of approval from now on and forever on Jim Crow and segregation and the relegation of Negro citizens to a position of inferiority. Can any one now doubt that the old slave-masters have won the Civil War and that the 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution are for the administration simply an exercise in 19th century oratory."

"It is obvious that today, as in 1917, the Negro soldier will be relegated to cleaning out latrines and digging trenches under white officers. In the Navy now as in the past, a Negro recruit, no matter how intelligent or industrious, and even if he stays in the Navy for twenty years, can advance no further than the post of Chief Cook to a white officer."

"So much for that 'conference.' Yet Walter White, speaking, he says, for Randolph and Hill, pretends to find some comfort in its 'results.' He says: 'It is gratifying that opportunity has been afforded to discuss frankly with the Commander-in-Chief (Roosevelt) and with top representatives of the Navy and Army the flagrant discriminations Negroes are encountering. While very little was definitely promised so far as action against these barriers is concerned, we believe definite progress was made.'

BETRAYAL OF NEGROES

"It is putting it mildly to say that the White-Hill-Randolph statement is the apotheosis of Uncle Tomism, that it represents a betrayal of those millions of Negroes who have looked to them for honest and courageous leadership. But it is the logical step for White and Randolph following their adoption of a position of support of Roosevelt's war policies which all along have meant support of the war policies of predatory British imperialism. And if White and Randolph think they can lead the Negro people willingly into these shambles, they do

not know their Negro people.

"I am not pleading for equal rights for the Negro people to die for imperialism. But I would like to draw the obvious parallel between today and 1917. Then, too, they told us we were fighting for democracy. Then, too, Negroes were Jim Crowed and humiliated in the Army. We returned home after the war to find lynching on the increase, and democracy for the Negro non-existent. It is reasonable to expect that if we leave it to the White House, to Congress, to the two major parties, or to Messrs. White, Hill and Randolph, for that matter, those Negroes fortunate enough to return home after a trick in the army, will get the same old treatment."

"It is clear that the Negro people must organize, among themselves and together with the labor movement and white progressives, for democracy at home as well as in the armed forces. Further than that, the Negro people have a right and ought to join together with the peace forces of this land to urge the repeal of the Conscription Law, in the enactment of which they had practically no voice."

The address at the Church was the third speech delivered by the vice presidential candidate in one of his busiest days of a very busy campaign tour.

Discrimination Hit In Defense Training, Too

Kansas City Leads In Mass Reaction To Racial Policies

DEC 12 1940

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. (ANP)—A mass demonstration that has never been equalled in Kansas City took place here Sunday afternoon, when 5,000 Negroes gathered at the Municipal auditorium to protest against discrimination in the national defense program. Speaking fearlessly and indignantly, four speakers launched vigorous attacks upon local industries with defense contracts which have refused to employ Negroes and upon the school authorities who have not provided training and refresher courses for Negroes.

C. A. Franklin, editor of the Call, who presided, said that if Kansas City manufacturers will not use Negro laborers, then the government should send its contracts some place else where all workers will be given an

equal chance.

"One manufacturer gave as his excuse," the editor said in a fiery climax, "that if he employed Negroes, he would have to build separate locker facilities for them. Looking around this audience which has every color from white to black, it occurs to me that they haven't always had separate lockers."

Speakers were the Rev. D. A. Holmes, pastor of the Paseo Baptist Church, whose subject was "Employment of Negroes on National Defense Work"; Miss Elsie M. Mountain, executive secretary of the Paseo branch Y. W. C. A., "Training Programs for National Defense and Negro Workers"; and Sidney Williams, industrial secretary of the St. Louis Urban League, "National Defense, National Unity and the Negro."

Negroes ask no special privileges, Rev. Mr. Holmes said. "We want no favors, but under Almighty God, there is not going to be any national defense unless the Negro has a part in it."

He scoffed at the meager facilities provided for the training of Negro men, saying that the two classes at the R. T. Coles vocational school are not adequate for equipping men for jobs.

"I read an article in the daily paper the other day," the Rev. Mr. Holmes said, "which stated that Negro men were being trained for national defense industries at R. T. Coles. I immediately drove up there to see for myself and the first thing they wanted to do was to wash my car and then wax it. I asked what kind of national defense that class was training men for."

"There are no airplane engines there," he charged. "There are only a few Ford engines built back in 1912. We must have in the Coles school or somewhere real classes to train men for real work. If we can't get them from our local authorities, then we must keep on fighting until the federal government comes in and clamps down on the whole thing."

The mass meeting was sponsored through the joint effort of 50 Kansas City organizations. It will be followed by a series of conferences with city officials and industrial leaders.

The mayor, city councilmen, school board and WPA officials, invited to attend the meeting, sent messages expressing their regret that they had previous engagements.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 DISCRIMINATION

Jim Crow Draft Plan Draws Fire of Civic Federation

SEP 17 1940

Vigorous opposition to the proposed jim-crow draft plan in the District and to the possible selection of Brig. Gen. Albert I. Cox, commanding officer of the District National Guard as selective executive officer were voiced in a special meeting of the executive committee of the Federation of Civic Associations on Monday night.

Disapproval of the plan to have 19 registration areas with two schools, one for colored and one for white registrants, was contained in a communication immediately despatched to the District commissioners asking a speedy hearing on the protests.

Calling attention to the fact that an emergency exists and that the draft machinery is now being set up, a delegation of five was appointed to wait upon the Commissioners and meet them at any time they set. The city fathers could find no time to squeeze in a hearing on the project Tuesday or Wednesday.

It was emphasized during Monday's meeting that during the World War, the draftees registered at the nearest station, colored and white alike, and no difficulty resulted.

Bullets Not Color Conscious

"This is no white man's war," asserted Dr. E. F. Harris, president of the Lincoln Civic Association in introducing the topic. "The Germans won't bring any colored bullets which won't shoot white men." Indictments against General Cox were that he is "incompetent, prejudiced, and the son of a former slave holder of North Carolina who cannot have the proper viewpoint."

The committee recommended the appointment of Major Daniel J. Donovan, District auditor, instead of General Cox. The attitude of the National Guard head when approached on the housing of the colored unit in the new \$2,000,000 armory for the District was reviewed. He refused to commit himself to the proposal when petitioned by the association and the NAACP.

Regarding a petition of the association, he is reported to have unofficially stated "it was the work of those who have not taken the trouble to inform themselves of the facts."

He is reported to have further stated that he had never received a single protest about housing facilities from a member of Company A, 372 Infantry, District Guard, but that all seemed to have been started by a group of outsiders.

Ignores Appeal

The general has persisted in ignoring appeals to him to break down discrimination in the housing of the guard units.

The meeting was held in Garnet-Patterson Junior High School, was presided over by Mrs. Velma Williams, member of the school board and first vice-president of the federation. Others present were:

John T. Rhines, Southwest Civic Association; Dr. C. Herbert Marshall, Jr., Rock Creek Association; John Edelin, Southeast Association; Emory A. Bryant, Bloomingdale; William A. Powell, public interest, Northeast Association; M. Norris, Northeast Boundary; Ernest Harper, Kingman Park; Howard D. Queen, treasurer of the federation; Kenneth Carter, corresponding secretary; George A. Johnson, Mid Way Association, and Mrs. Ruby Kendrick, recording secretary.

The committee selected to wait upon the Commissioners include: Messrs. Rhines, Queen, Carter, Marshall, and Harris.

Asks Board Appointees

The conferees also discussed other phases of the proposed draft program which would have: nineteen physicians, one for each local board area, medical advisory board, advisory board for registrants, and a board of appeals.

Just prior to the meeting, Dr. Marshall as president of the District NAACP wrote John Russell Young, Commissioner, that the following recognition of Negroes in population:

Five colored physicians, members in good standing in the Medico-Chirurgical Society of the District and actively engaged in practice, to be assigned as physicians to the local board.

Two colored members on the advisory board for registrants;

Two colored physicians on the medical advisory board;

Two colored members on the board of appeals.

The executive committee looked

with favor upon Dr. Marshall's suggestions.

The District has been divided into 19 Local Board Areas for registration, and on the day set by the President, all men eligible must register at one of the following schools:

SEP 17 1940

Local B'd Area No.	Reg. Pl. No.	School
1	1	Western Senior
1	2	Wormley
2	3	Deal Jr.
2	4	Reno
3	5	Woodrow Wilson
3	6	Chain Bridge
4	7	Calvin Coolidge
4	8	Military Rd.
5	9	Paul Jr.
5	10	Monroe
6	11	MacFarland Jr.
6	12	Banneker Jr.
7	13	Roosevelt Senior
7	14	Bruce
8	15	Central High
8	16	Garnett-Patterson
9	17	Powell Jr.
9	18	Sumner
10	19	Gordon Jr.
10	20	Francis Jr.
11	21	Langley Jr.
11	22	Dunbar Senior
12	23	New Jefferson Jr.
12	24	Ragland Jr.
13	25	Hine Jr.
13	26	Giddings
14	27	Stuart Jr.
14	28	Logan (new)
15	29	Elliott Jr.
15	30	Lovejoy
16	31	Anacostia
16	32	Birney
17	33	Eastern Senior
17	34	Brown Jr.
18	35	McKinley Senior
18	36	Crummell
19	37	Taft Jr.
19	38	Mott

(Note: Odd numbered registration places are for white. Even for colored).

URGE REMOVAL OF COLOR BAR IN ARMY, NAVY

Defender
N.A.A.C.P. Points Out
That Only Navy Mess
Corps Admits Race

8-3-40

NEW YORK.—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, recently appointed by President Roosevelt, were urged this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to remove all discrimination against Race members in the armed forces.

The N.A.A.C.P. pointed out that Race members are prevented from enlisting in any branch of the Navy save the mess corps, and from most branches of the Army with the exception of a few segregated units. "The new defense program," the N.A.A.C.P. letter stated, "depends entirely upon the establishment of unity among the American citizens of this country. The refusal to fully integrate Negroes who constitute the largest minority group in this country tends to destroy that unity which is necessary to the success of the new defense program."

The N.A.A.C.P. urged defense secretaries "to take the necessary steps to prevent any discrimination against Race members in the new defense program and to remove the old types of discrimination now existing in the present armed forces to the end that Negroes will be integrated into the armed forces without discrimination because of race or color."

Jim Crow in Uniform

THE smiling mask of Roosevelt slipped rather badly the other day when the President approved a Jim Crow army. It slipped, and Negro voters saw behind it something uncomfortably like the grim, sour visage of Woodrow Wilson. The President justified the Jim Crow policy as having "proven satisfactory over a long period of years." It is this policy which has made contact with the army one of the worst spots in Negro experience, and which, under Wilson, built up army practices far more inhuman than any thought up by the army castes of Europe. It was a policy which made for discrimination even against the Negro wounded; in the South in many instances it was worth a Negro's life to wear a uniform.

OCT 22 1940
James W. Ford, Communist candidate for Vice President, has characterized the White House action as "a degrading affront to the Negro people." Speaking to a group of Negro and white workers in New Orleans, the Negro leader sharply criticized the position of Walter White, A. Phillip Randolph, and T. Arnold Hill, who indirectly defended or apologized for the administration's decision to segregate Negro troops. Another Communist candidate and Negro leader, William L. Patterson of Chicago, has accurately likened the President's action to a "Hitler decree glorifying fascist race theories."

The Democrats have thrown upon their Negro section the odious task of labeling Wendell Willkie pro-German because of his ancestry. And while the Democrats try to establish a "race" basis for Willkie's fascist tendencies, the President steadily reveals his own hypocrisy. He has evaded any comment on the Anti-Lynching bill, and now confirms suspicion that his approval of Jim Crowism in the army is also approval of Jim Crowism in civilian life. For it is no accident that on the same day the President announced his army policy, Senator Barkley, administration leader in the upper house, gave the coup de grace to the Anti-Lynching bill.

A SQUARE DEAL IN CONSCRIPTION

Courier

In a few days the Congress of the United States will pass a new selective military service law inaugurating peacetime CONSCRIPTION for the first time in the history of the Republic. ~~8-3-40~~ 8-3-40

Most Negroes are in favor of such a law. They realize the necessity for adequate national defense and the valuable training young men can secure in the military establishment; not only physical training but training in special work useful in civil life.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

But most Negroes also insist on a SQUARE DEAL IN CONSCRIPTION: no discrimination against their youth because of color in any branch of the military or naval service, either in the enlisted or commissioned personnel; no discrimination because of color in defense industries; no discrimination because of color in the industrial training schools and classes being set up to train apprentices for the defense industries.

We insist upon this absolute square deal because (a) we are citizens of the United States entitled to all the rights, privileges and duties of citizenship, and (b) because we are being HEAVILY TAXED to help support this vast military machine.

PREJUDICE EXISTS

We must frankly face the fact that color prejudice exists everywhere and that the American tradition has been to shunt the Negro to one side, to ignore him, to discriminate against him and/or to segregate him whenever and wherever possible, as our experience in previous national emergencies has amply demonstrated.

We must also frankly face the fact that this experience will be repeated unless we get busy at once to counteract it with all the courage, persistence and ingenuity we possess.

We cannot honestly anticipate that OTHER PEOPLE will inaugurate measures designed to safeguard our rights and assure us of a square deal, unless WE take the initiative and by our courageous insistence COMPEL them to do so. We have many white friends who are interested in seeing that we share in the privileges and responsibilities of a citizenship awake to the need of an adequate national defense, but they can and WILL DO VERY LITTLE for us unless we show vigilance and resourcefulness in our own behalf.

PREPAREDNESS—NOW

We cannot get a square deal in national defense merely by wishing for it and talking about it "down by the big gate."

We must promptly set up adequate machinery for dealing with any effort to deny us an EQUAL SHARE in this great effort, whether military, industrial or educational, so that we can move speedily and effectively in defense of our citizenship rights.

Whenever a Negro anywhere is subjected to ANY form of discrimination apparently based on color, we must be able to QUICKLY institute an investigation and to push for remedial measures with the constituted civil and military authorities.

There will be far less color discrimination than might ordinarily be anticipated if these authorities know that we are on the job and PREPARED to push each case to a showdown. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and

we must be prepared to pay it.

SUGGESTED STEPS

While every Negro between 18 and 64 will have to register, it is only those between 21 and 31 who are physically fit and without dependents who will be called, and in the first draft about 140,000 YOUNG NEGROES will be called for service by October 1, if present plans materialize.

Obviously with such a large number of Negroes in the military service there must and should be an important Negro in the War Department to generally look out for their interests and interpret their special needs to the Secretary of War. This Negro should have the rank of an ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR, and he should be appointed as soon as the selective service act becomes a law.

There should be a Negro consultant or member of all selective service boards in all parts of the country, North West, South and East, to guard against any discrimination based on color.

There should be a Negro member of the National Defense Commission attached to the office of Sidney Hillman, labor co-ordinator, to insure that there is no discrimination against Negro labor in war industries, as well as in the arrangements being made to train youthful apprentices for war industries.

NEGRO DEFENSE COMMITTEES

But we cannot be SURE that such Negro members of boards and committees will always vigorously perform their duties, unless we have an alert and organized public machinery ready TO BRING PRESSURE to bear upon them, for in the last analysis this is the business of the people and not of the politicians.

There should be a NEGRO DEFENSE COMMITTEE in every county in the United States where Negroes reside, and it should be organized and FUNCTIONING BY LABOR DAY.

These Negro Defense Committees should consist of hundreds of prominent Negroes in all walks of life: religious, fraternal, labor, business, educational and social, and should work through numerous sub-committees dealing with (a) the Army, (b) the Navy, (c) selection and training of officers, (d) defense industries, (e) vocational training for defense (f) propaganda.

Unless some such program is adopted and executed NOW, we are going to have a dreary repetition of our experience in previous national emergencies.

Considering the speed with which the defense program is approaching completion, it is manifest that WE HAVE NO TIME TO LOSE.

Selected Negro Artillerymen

Dear Sirs: There is a little item in connection with selective service which you probably never heard of but which has some point in the present situation. I was secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People before the World War, and after receiving my commission as a captain of artillery was transferred to the 92nd Division at my own request. I found the colonel commanding the artillery brigade in a funk, saying he "never could make artillerymen out of niggers." He was short of mechanics and electricians and technical men generally. I considered the matter overnight and then told him I thought I had a solution for him.

"Here," I said, "is the problem. You have only one combat division to recruit from the draft, less than 20,000 men; but the draft all told has the cards of half a million Negroes. Among those half-million are all the automobile mechanics, electricians, machinists you possibly could want as nuclei for your gun crews and members of the headquarters company. Let me go down to Washington and see the Secretary of War and get permission to comb the draft." "Can you do it?" he said. "I can't pay your transportation to Washington, but I'll give you leave to go down and try."

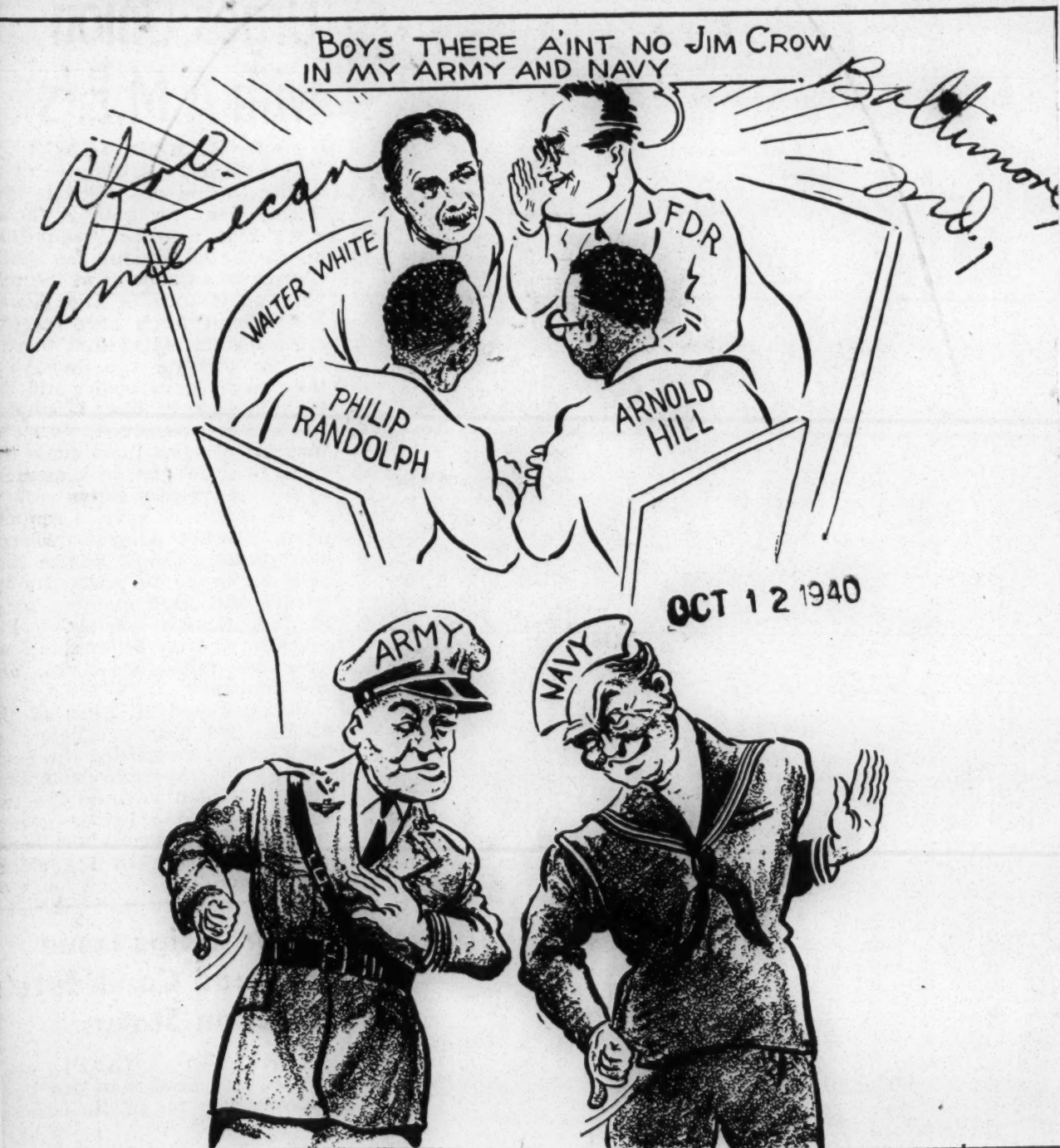
So I went to Washington at my own expense and through the Washington branch of the N. A. A. C. P. Archibald Grimke and I got an interview with Newton Baker, then Secretary of War. General Hugh Scott, Chief of Staff, was called in, and I laid my proposal before them. They approved it almost at once — Baker, of course, was always sympathetic toward the Negro — and gave the artillery of the 92nd Division authority to take 200 men per regiment from the draft. I personally combed the cards and forever endeared myself to my fellow-officers by including, on my own responsibility, twenty men per regiment who had been Pullman cooks. There was no grouching about the possibility of making artillerymen out of Negroes after my selections arrived.

ROY NASH

Sacramento, Cal., October 3

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE*-1940
DISCRIMINATION

A White House Run-Around Conference



Association Plans Legal Action Against War, Navy Depts. To Force Acceptance Of Negro Volunteers

Court action against the Secretaries of War and Navy to compel the acceptance of all who volunteer for service in either of these branches of the country's defense forces, regardless of race or color, is promised by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, according to an announcement made here Saturday.

The announcement followed passage of the following resolution by a unanimous vote of the Association's board of directors at its monthly meeting held here at 69 Fifth avenue, September 9:

"That the NAACP Legal Defense Committee give aid to any American citizen desiring to enlist in the Army or Navy, who is refused the privilege of enlisting on account of race or color, to the extent that it will institute appropriate, affirmative legal action against the Secretary of War or the Secretary of Navy as the case may be, to compel the Army or Navy to accept such volunteer into the armed or naval forces."

The resolution was passed following a report on an exchange of correspondence between the War and Navy Departments in which the Association asked that there be no discrimination against Negroes in the new defense program, and that colored citizens be integrated into the armed forces without segregation because of race or color.

Secretary of War Stimson made the following statement to the N. A. A. C. P. in a letter about the matter:

"The success of the National Defense Program can best be established by united support of the War Department plans, which have been worked out after years of study by those who have devoted their lives to these questions. Unity can be destroyed by attempting to establish a program which is contrary to the War Department's plans, by those who are not familiar either with the principles involved or the requirements of such plans."

"In the augmentation of the Army now under way, additional colored units have been authorized. These include one Field Artillery Regiment, two Coast Artillery Anti-aircraft Battalions, one Engineer Regiment for general service, twelve Quartermaster Truck Companies and one Chemical decontamination company."

C. W. Nimitz, Navy Department Bureau chief, made the following statement setting forth the Navy's policy of regulating Negroes to the service of messmen only: "After many years of experience, the policy of not enlisting men of the colored race for any branch of the naval service except the messman branch, was adopted to meet the best interests of general ship efficiency."

Assurance Not Yet Certain That Fish Non- Discrimination Clause Will Be Retained In Final Draft Of Conscription Bill

SEP 20 1940

New York—While I am in-
formed that a non-discrimination
clause will be retained in the final
version of the Burke-Wadsworth
Conscription Bill, I have had no
assurance that the Fish amend-
ment which prohibits discrimina-
tion against draftees as well as
volunteers, because of race, or col-
or, will be retained in toto when
the revised bill is sent to the Sen-
ate."

This was the statement made by
Walter White here today, follow-
ing his return from Washington
where he conferred with members
of the House and Senate commit-
tee now completing a final draft
on the conscription bill to be sub-
mitted to both Houses of Congress
before the end of the week.

Prior to his talk with members
of the conference committee in
charge of ironing out the final
draft of the bill, the N. A. A. C. P.
secretary sent the following tele-
gram to members of the commit-
tee:

"As conferee on Burke-Wads-
worth Conscription Bill may we
urge you insist retaining amend-
ment prohibiting racial discrimi-
nation against volunteers or draf-
tees. Urge you oppose vigorously
any pressure to eliminate or emas-
culate it. America needs all her
man-power in this crisis and race
prejudice must not be allowed to
jeopardize our country."

Members of the Conference com-
mittee to whom the telegram was
sent included Senators Sherman
Minton, Elbert Thomas, Warren
Austin, H. Styles Bridges, and
Representatives Dow W. Harter
and Walter G. Andrews.

Negroes Assured Of Fair Treatment

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—(AP)—Presi-
dent Roosevelt ordered the War De-
partment today to put into effect
immediately a policy providing that
the services of negroes will be utilized
on "a fair and equitable basis" in the
national defense program.

Announcing the President's action,
Stephen Early, his press secretary,
said that it followed a conference Mr.
Roosevelt had on September 27 with
negro leaders and Frank Knox, sec-
retary of the Navy, and Robert Patter-
son, assistant secretary of war.

Early said Patterson thereafter sub-
mitted a statement of policy which
the President approved.

The statement as given out at the
White House:
"It is the policy of the War Depart-
ment that the services of negroes will
be utilized on a fair and equitable
basis. In line with this policy pro-
vision will be made as follows:

"1. The strength of the negro per-
sonnel of the Army of the United
States will be maintained on the gen-
eral basis of proportion of the negro
population of the country.

"2. Negro organizations will be
established in each major branch of
the service, combatant as well as non-
combatant.

"3. Negro reserve officers eligible
for active duty will be assigned to
negro units officered by colored per-
sonnel.

"4. When officer candidate schools
are established, opportunity will be
given to negroes to qualify for reserve
commissions.

"5. Negroes are being given avia-
tion training as pilots, mechanics, and
technical specialists. This training
will be accelerated. Negro aviation
units will be formed as soon as the
necessary personnel has been trained.

"6. At arsenals and Army posts
negro civilians are accorded equal op-
portunity for employment at work for
which they are qualified by ability,
education and experience.

"7. The policy of the War Depart-
ment is not to intermingle colored
and white enlisted personnel in the
same regimental organizations. This
policy has been proven satisfactory
over a long period of years and to
make changes would produce situa-
tions destructive to morale and detri-
mental to the preparations for na-
tional defense. For similar reasons
the department does not contemplate
assigning colored reserve officers other
than those of the Medical Corps and
chaplains to existing negro combat
units of the regular Army. These
regular units are going concerns, ac-
customed through many years to the
present system. Their morale is
splendid, their rate of reenlistment is
exceptionally high, and their field
training is well advanced. It is the
opinion of the War Department that
no experiments should be tried with
the organizational set-up of these
units at this critical time."

Negroes Rejected By Recruit Offices

SEP 28 1940

By JOHN H. THOMPSON
NEW YORK.—(ANP)—
Recruiting offices at 39
Whitehall street, said to be
the largest in the country,
continue to turn away Negro
volunteers, despite the new drive
for recruits. Fully one third of
white volunteers have been re-
jected because of physical defects,
said recruiting officers here.

More and more Negroes have
applied for admission but all have
been told by officers "There is no
place in the army for Negroes."
This, despite the fact some 36,000
are to be drafted under the Con-
scription bill.

Interested citizens here point
out that white political speakers
now stress national unity, a dem-
ocratic country, solidarity of de-
fense preparations, yet bar Ne-
groes from volunteer enlistment
in the armed forces of the "great-
est Democracy."

Anti-Roosevelt
Harlemites cite the president's
statement, when signing the draft
bill, announcing his endorsement
of segregated, Jim Crow units in
the Army. "While we have been
asking for F. D. R. to speak out
against segregation and discrimi-
nation in our armed forces, his
first official statement concerning
it is an endorsement of segrega-
tion in the Army" these citizens
say.

Several youth leaders in Har-
lem are in open revolt against
such undemocratic principles and
point to the fact that national
Jewish leaders have refused to
aid in setting up Jewish units to
fight Hitler.

One prominent young man, in
the draftee limits, was overheard
saying, "My friends and compan-
ions are going to refuse to be
part of any Jim Crow units, no
matter what the results."

NAACP Offers Court Fight on Military Bias

NEW YORK — Court action
against the Secretaries of War

and Navy to compel acceptance of
all who volunteer for service in
either of these branches of the
country's defense forces, regard-
less of race or color, is promised
by the NAACP, according to an
announcement made here, last
week. OCT 5 1940

The announcement followed
passage of the following resolu-
tion by a unanimous vote of the
association's board of directors
at its monthly meeting held Sep-
tember 9.

Plan Forced Acceptance
"That the NAACP legal defense
committee give aid to any Ameri-
can citizen desiring to enlist in
the army or navy, who is re-
fused the privilege of enlisting on
account of race or color, to the
extent that it will institute ap-
propriate, affirmative legal action
against the Secretary of War or
the Secretary of Navy as the case
may be, to compel the army or
navy to accept such volunteer in-
to the armed or naval forces."

The resolution was passed fol-
lowing a report on an exchange
of correspondence between the
War and Navy Department in
which the association asked that
there be no discrimination against
colored people in the new de-
fense program, and that colored
citizens be integrated into the
armed forces without segregation
because of race or color.

Army, Navy Defend J.C.
Secretary of War Stimson
wrote (in part):

"In the augmentation of the
army now under way, additional
colored units have been author-
ized. These include one field ar-
tillery regiment, two coast artil-
lery anti-aircraft battalions, one
engineer regiment for general
service, twelve quartermaster
truck companies and one chemi-
cal decontamination company."

C. W. Nimitz, Navy Depart-
ment bureau chief, made the fol-
lowing statement: "After many
years of experience, the policy of
not enlisting men of the colored
race for any branch of the naval
service except the messman or
branch was adopted to meet the
best interests of general ship ef-
ficiency."

Negro Doctor Not Accepted By U. S. Medical Division

OCT 12 1940

PHILADELPHIA.—(ANP)—A
graduate of the Howard Univer-
sity Medical school, Dr. P. Ver-
nora Bradley, was turned down
completely last week by the U. S.
Recruiting offices here. "There
are no vacancies in the army for
colored doctors," the sergeant in
charge of the medical division of
the recruiting service said.

He was not only refused, but
Dr. Bradley was not even per-
mitted to fill out an application.

Before he applied in person, Dr.
Bradley had told his qualifica-
tions over the telephone, and he
was urged to appear in person so
that he might be assigned for
physical examination and so on,
but once he showed up, the army
would have none of him.

This treatment of the young
and handsome medic, who "want-
ed to enlist and do his part," was
told to the Philadelphia Academy
of Medicine and Allied Sciences
and resulted in a committee be-
ing named to protest to Washing-
ton.

NAACP Seeks Grounds to Sue Navy Officials

OCT 12 1940
NEW YORK.—The national
office of the NAACP is offering
to file suit in behalf of any per-
son barred from enlistment in
any branch of the air corps, navy
or army on account of his color.

Such suit, Thurgood Marshall,
special counsel for the associa-
tion said, would be directed
against the Secretary of the
Navy or the Secretary of War
or local draft officials concerned.
One ground for such a suit
would be Senator Wagner's
amendment to the Burke-Wads-
worth Conscription Law, forbid-
ding racial discrimination. Other
grounds will be dug up by
research attorneys.

The NAACP attorneys are also
studying grounds to compel the
Pennsylvania National Guard
regiments to admit colored appli-
cants.

CRIME POLICE

Negro Aviator Accuses Army Air Officials Of Giving Negroes The Run Around In Pilot Training

DEC 7 1940

Attempts on the part of the Army Air Corps to fool Negro citizens into believing that the Civil Aeronautics Board, the National Youth Administration and other assorted government agencies are providing the means for training Negro pilots for the army are attacked as vicious by James L. H. Peck, 28-year old Negro aviator, who writes in the December issue of the Crisis magazine on "When Do We Fly?"

Despite the fact that the United States Government is engaged in pushing forward a huge air program involving the training of more than 18,000 men as technicians etc., Peck says there are only three Negroes involved in the program to date. Posing the question, "Shall we ever be given a chance to fly for our country?" Peck, who flew in the recent Spanish Civil War, for Spain, and is the author of "Armies With Wings," and numerous articles on aviation, has this to say:

"I cannot answer this question as directly as I would like to, but there are very definite indications. When activities begin along the following lines," he says, "we can then believe that Negroes are actually being prepared to fly for the United States Army."

"When, first of all, several of the many competent instructors of our race are sent to one of the Air Corps Training Centers for what is known as a 'familiarization course,' the Department's declaration of good intentions toward the Negro flyer will just begin to make sense. Experienced instructors are required to take this course in order to become familiar with Army procedure. By this method alone can civilian instructors be so schooled that their students may be afforded standardized training in the Army way.

"When, secondly, provision is made for the entrance of our boys into an Army-supervised commercial school, or into the technical schools of the Air Corps, the Department may truthfully announce that it plans to 'provide for the acceleration of such training.'

"When, thirdly, the applications of enlisted personnel and flying cadets are no longer relegated to the wastebasket, but are referred through the proper military channels, to whomever the Department shall appoint as trained personnel officer of the Negro aviation unit or units, they can, in truth, say 'Negro aviation units will be established as soon as trained personnel can be obtained'

"When, fourthly, the Department requests the presence of two or three aviation experts of our race to sit in meeting to discuss the hundred and one details involved in the setting up of a colored flying unit; or as an alternative, calls into conference two or three of our high-ranking Army officers to actually map organization of such a unit we will be beginning to get our just representation as taxpayers.

"Not until most, or all of these steps are taken in the mentioned manner—or a very similar procedure is followed—will we be well on our way toward winning the fight 'on the same front' to help fight to defend our country. And I do believe that we want to do our part particularly in view of the fact that our potential enemies are who they are."

Writes Revealing Article



JAMES H. L. PECK

Birmingham Youth Discloses Evils To Race Newspapers

Goodwin Worked Four Years, Twelve Days On Big Ship

DEC 16 1940

By WILLIAM FOWLKES

Negroes in Uncle Sam's Navy are "put in the brig" and discharged without trial when they protest their lowly position in the mess attendant rank. Their inability to rise to a higher rating and the insults, inconveniences and discriminations they get in the nation's sea defense service, it was related here Sunday.

Shannon Goodwin, of Birmingham, Ala., one of sixteen colored youths discharged from the U. S. S. Philadelphia because they revealed to the Negro press the treatment accorded members of the race aboard the "fighting sea dogs," was in the city en route home from Norfolk, Va., where recruiting station authorities gave him his walking papers for being "undesirable" and "unfit" for service. Goodwin was found in his con-

When the marine captain went over to San Francisco for a brig in which to place the prisoners, he reportedly told the warden that they were "tough customers." The warden is then said to have indirectly advised the boys to attempt to escape, knowing they would be shot in any such attempt. A marine is charged \$1.05 for shooting in any such instance, a dollar for the act and a nickel for the bullet, it was stated.

Incoming mail of the prisoners was censored and they were "advise" what to write to the outside world.

LOCKED UP AGAIN

On November 28, the youths were released and sent to the recruiting stations nearest their homes and places of enlistment. Three days later, travelling without guard, Goodwin said he arrived at Norfolk recruiting station where with others he was locked up for another

seven days.

Upon discharge, Goodwin, who had advanced from third class to first class mess attendant, maintaining an average 3.35 rating of a possible 4.0, was given a warning never to join the Navy again. The printed warning read:

WARNING

"You are being discharged from U. S. Naval Service and you are NOT recommended for re-enlistment."

"For you to reenlist in any branch of the service would be a fraud which will be detected by your fingerprints and which will subject you to imprisonment, forfeiture of pay and dishonorable discharge."

The warning was signed by S. H. Gambrill, recruiting station commander.

Upon Goodwin's discharge was written "undesirable" for "unfitness." He was given transportation to Birmingham, a shirt and cap

denunciation of the treatment accorded him by forces of a nation which is his native land and which he sought to serve and advance in its employ. After four years and 12 days of service on the heavy battleship "Philadelphia" Goodwin warned that his country apparently wanted no service by members of its most numerous minority group except in the bottom rank, starred with undesirable treatment. Conditions on the Philadelphia are considered a fair sample of the Navy as a whole.

REVEALED TO PRESS

The Alabama boy said that with two others he wrote a letter to the Negro press telling of "unbearable" conditions in the Navy. A copy of this letter was forwarded apparently from the Department of Navy in Washington to Commander Lambert Zirol, of the Philadelphia.

Immediately Zirol got busy and started investigation of this "discontent" aboard ship. Goodwin said. All mess attendants, that is Negroes, aboard ship were called before him, one by one, and asked about the letter of protest. Goodwin said he admitted his part in writing when questioned. In an-

swer to the question of why he wrote such a letter, Goodwin said he replied that he wanted the public to know the treatment being accorded Negroes in the Navy, their inability to get a change of rating. The commander is alleged to have told Goodwin that he would have been placed in the brig for asking a change.

Having no knowledge of law, Goodwin said he was tricked into signing a statement telling of his decision to reveal Naval conditions. The next day he revealed names of the other letter writers upon a promise of "help in the mess" and signed his name to a statement that he and the others "willingly" put their signatures to an admission of the written protest.

LOCKED IN BRIG

On the next day, Goodwin and the fifteen mess attendants were locked up in the brig as general court-martial prisoners, he said. The officers did all they could to "break down the prisoners' morale during the twenty days of imprisonment on the ship before they were sent to Goat Island for sixteen days' further imprisonment, it was

ed as "enjoyable." According to Goodwin, mess attendants get up at 5:30 in the morning and have to work, off and on but never really off, to as much as 9:30 at night. A half-hour is given to tidying, after which attendants shine shoes or four pairs of officers' shoes, clean up their rooms, gather up their laundry were First-Class Mess Attendants Byron Cecil Johnson and Jesse Willard Watford; second-class mess attendant L. Hansbrough; third class attendants Floyd Owens, Ernest Bosley, J. E. Ponder, J. W. Ponder, Robert Turner, Arnan Perry Cooper, E. R. Rife, Robinson, H. Porter and St. Clair. None of these is

the (listed) case in such action. DISAPPOINTED WITH NAVY Goodwin said he was disappointed with the Navy, which upon his being recruited "offered" opportunity for service, education and advancement. He said the life of a mess attendant was not one to be class-

Negro Aviator Accuses Army Air
Officials Of Giving Negroes The
Run Around In Pilot Training

Attempts on the part of the Army Air Corps to fool Negro citizens into believing that the Civil Aeronautics Board, the National Youth Administration and other assorted government agencies are providing the means for training Negro pilots for the army are attacked as vicious by James L. H. Pekk, 28-year old Negro aviator, who writes in the December issue of the Crisis magazine on "When Do We Fly?"

cial school, or into the technical schools of the Air Corps, the Department may truthfully announce that it plans to 'provide for the acceleration of such training.'

"When, thirdly, the applications of enlisted personnel and flying cadets are no longer relegated to the wastebasket, but are referred through the proper military channels, to whomever the Department shall appoint as trained personnel officer of the Negro aviation unit or units, they can, in truth, say Negro aviation units will be established as soon as trained personnel can be obtained.

Despite the fact that the United States Government is engaged in pushing forward a huge air program involving the training of more than 18,000 men as technicians, etc., Peck says there are only three Negroes involved in the program to date. Posing the question, "Shall we ever be given a chance to fly for our country?" Peck, who flew in the recent Spanish Civil War, for Spain, and is the author of "Armies With Wings," and numerous articles on aviation, has this to say:

"When, fourthly, the Department requests the presence of two or three aviation experts of our race to sit in meeting to discuss the hundred and one details involved in the setting up of a colored flying unit, or as an alternative, calls into conference two or three of our high-ranking Army officers to actually map organization of such a unit we will be beginning to get our just representation as taxpayers.

"I cannot answer this question as directly as I would like to, but there are very definite indications. When activities begin along the following lines," he says, "we can then believe that Negroes are actually being prepared to fly for the United States Army."

"When, first of all, several of the many competent instructors of our race are sent to one of the steps are taken in the mentioned manner—or a very similar procedure is followed—will we be well on our way toward winning the fight 'on the same front' to help fight to defend our country. And I do believe that we want to do our part particularly in view of the fact that our potential enemies are who they are."

what is known as a 'familiarization course,' the Department's declaration of good intentions toward the Negro flyer will just begin to make sense. Experienced instructors are required to take this course in order to become familiar with Army procedure. By this method alone can civilian instructors be so schooled that their students may be afforded standardized training in the Army way.

"When, secondly, provision is made for the entrance of our boys into an Army-supervised commer-

Writes Revealing Article



JAMES H. L. PECK

Birmingham Youth Discloses Evils To Race Newspapers

When the marine captain went over to San Francisco for a brig in which to place the prisoners, he reportedly told the warden that they were "tough customers." The warden is then said to have indirectly advised the boys to attempt to escape, knowing they would be shot in any such attempt. A marine is charged \$1.05 for shooting in any such instance, a dollar for the act and a nickel for the bullet, it was stated.

Incoming mail of the prisoners was censored and they were "advised" what to write to the outside world.

LOOKED UP AGAIN

On November 28, the youths were released and sent to the recruiting stations nearest their homes and places of enlistment. Three days later, travelling without guard, Goodwin said he arrived at Norfolk recruiting station where with others he was locked up for another seven days.

Upon discharge, Goodwin, who had advanced from third class mess attendant, maintaining a 3.35 rating of a possible 4.0, was given a warning never to join the Navy again. The printed "WARNING

"You are being discharged from U. S. Naval Service and you are NOT recommended for re-enlistment."

"For you to reenlist in any branch of the service would be a fraud which will be detected by your fingerprints and which will subject you to imprisonment, forfeiture of

On November 28, the youths were released and sent to the recruiting stations nearest their homes and places of enlistment. Three days later, travelling without guard, Goodwin said he arrived at Norfolk recruiting station where with others he was locked up for another seven days.

Upon discharge, Goodwin, who had advanced from third class mess attendant, maintaining a 3.35 rating of a possible 4.0, was given a warning never to join the Navy again. The printed "WARNING

"You are being discharged from U. S. Naval Service and you are NOT recommended for re-enlistment."

"For you to reenlist in any branch of the service would be a fraud which will be detected by your fingerprints and which will subject you to imprisonment, forfeiture of

and his savings. Goodwin said it was the custom that discharged men be given money for a complete outfit, including a suit and overcoat, but that he failed to get his.

Dismissed from service aboard the Philadelphia along with Goodwin

**Goodwin Worked
Four Years, Twelve
Days On Big Ship**

BY WILLIAM FOWLKES

Negroes in Uncle Sam's Navy are except in the bottom rank, started "put in the brig" and discharged with undesirable treatment. Considered without trial when they protest their lions on the fair sample of the Navy in the mess position in the mess considered as a fair sample of the Navy attendant rank their inability to as a whole.

REVEALED TO PRESS

The Alabama boy said that with two others he wrote a letter to the Negro press telling of "unbearable" conditions in the Navy. A copy of this letter was forwarded appar-

entirely from the Department of Navy in Washington to Commander Hambert Ziroll, of the Philadelphia. Immediately Ziroll got busy and started investigation of this "discontent" aboard ship. Goodwin said. All mess attendants, that is Negroes, aboard ship were called before him, one by one, and asked about the letter of protest. Goodwin said he admitted his part in writing when questioned in an

answer to the question of why he wrote such a letter, Goodwin said he replied that he wanted the public to know the treatment being accorded Negroes in the Navy, their inability to get a change of rating. The commander is alleged to have told Goodwin that he would have been placed in the brig for asking a change.

Having no knowledge of law, Goodwin said he was tricked into signing a statement telling of his decision to reveal Naval conditions. The next day he revealed names of the other letter writers upon a promise of "help in the mess" and signed his name to a statement that he and the others, "willingly" put their signatures to an admission of the written protest.

LOCKED IN BRIG

On the next day, Goodwin and the fifteen mess attendants were locked up in the brig as general court-martial prisoners, he said. The officers did all they could to 'break down the prisoners' morale during the twenty days of imprisonment on the ship before they were sent to Goat Island for sixteen days' further imprisonment, it was

were First-Class Mess Attendants Byron Cecil Johnson and Jesse Willard Watford; second-class mess attendant L. Hansbrough; third class attendants Floyd Owens, Ernest Bosley, J. E. Ponder, J. W. Ponder, Robert Turner, Arnah Perry Cooper, G. E. Rice, C. H. Robinson, J. H. Porter and Floyd St. Clair. None stood trial as is

According to Goodwin, mess attendants get up at 5:30 in the morning and have to work, off and on but never really off, to as much as 9:30 at night. A half-hour is given to tidying, after which the attendants shine three or four pairs of officers' shoes, clean up their rooms, gather up their laund-

the usual case in such action. **DISAPPOINTED WITH NAVY**

Goodwin said he was disappointed with the Navy, which upon his being recruited "offered" opportunity for service, education and advancement. He said the life of a mess attendant was not one to be class-

ry, sometimes wash part of it and then they may eat. In the mess room they must serve the officers and satisfy their various desires. They must serve three meals of about two and one-half hours duration each during the day. Between meals and the tidying of the rooms the mess attendants, having no place to go aboard ship, must keep moving and appearing to be doing something or they can be reported for being in the wrong places at the wrong time. The latter reportedly is nerve-racking and while the crew works from eight to four daily, the mess attendants must work that time and much more.

Black-face minstrel shows aboard ship ridicule the Negro race, chaplains talk of "n—rs" and Southern-born officers of low rating want Negroes to salute them even in their bunks, Goodwin revealed. There are constant threats, the strictest of segregation and inopportunities to enjoy the privileges usually associated with the service and other "grinding" situations. There is discrimination and segregation in naval chapels and other places of assembly, according to the discharged sailor. There is nothing to be but a mess attendant.

Goodwin was not sure of his future during the time of questioning before he caught the bus for Alabama. He said he was engaged to a young woman in Portland, Oregon, and that he expected to go there after the Christmas holidays and go into business with the money he saved during years in the Navy. A barber by trade, he expects to establish a small shop in Oregon, if something else doesn't turn up. He also plays a trumpet.

Before departure, Goodwin said he hoped the general public would continue to protest inequalities in the Navy, which may soon see its greatest test in defense of a land hailed as "of the free and home of the brave."

Los Angeles Youth Plan Draftee Aid, Fight Jim Crow

Map Program to Meet Every Day Needs of Boys
in Camps at Meeting of Youth Council

DEC 20 1940 (Special to the Daily Worker)

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19.—California Youth Legislature workers today are planning local youth councils to "meet the real needs of young people" in every section of Los Angeles.

Through recommendation of an all-day education session here, the youth councils will have a three-fold objective:

1. Development of recreational American Peace Mobilization, centers near selective service camps for the benefit of draftees, would rather be by themselves," by augmenting of a program to declaring: "The experience of the make draft camps sanitary and trade unions has shown that Ne- healthy before conscriptees are groes are willing to take their place admitted. beside their white brothers. Our job

2. Securing peace-time jobs for all unemployed youth, since war-time employment programs have made but a "small dent" in un-employment rolls. is to break down the barriers which separate the conscripted army from the body of our civilian democracy so there can be a free interchange

3. Elimination of racial discrimination and segregation in the United States Army and Navy and in national defense industries. of the benefits of our democracy."

The youth will move in every neighborhood centering their campaign on opposition to repeal of the Johnson Act, which provides that no loans be given to World War debt defaulters. After recommending establishing of a youth advisory committee to work with NYA heads for the abolition of Jim Crow, the conference delegates voted to send a telegram of protest to Navy officials on discrimination.

Keynoting the conference was Youth Legislature State Chairman Charles Rosenthal, who termed the campaign for jobs a "read campaign for national defense."

"Harriet Elliot, of the National Defense Advisory Commission, has said there are 45,000,000 American people living below the danger line of malnutrition, Rosenthal said.

"Clearly, if we are to strengthen our country, we must have a healthy, working people. Therefore, our program for jobs is a real campaign for national defense.

"We are proud to take a position behind Jefferson, Lincoln and Susan B. Anthony and carry on the traditions of real democracy."

The 56 delegates and more than 125 observers applauded when Tom Cullen, executive secretary of the

WOULD NAME A BLACK CABINET

St. Louis Argus
St. Louis Mo.
Group Also Advocates
OCT 25 1940
Separate Army-Navy Units

WASHINGTON, D. C., — Oct. 23 — The U. S. Government Employees convention headed by Edgar G. Brown and representing 30,000 Negro federal employees meeting at Shiloh Baptist Church Sunday passed resolutions asking President Roosevelt for Negro Major Generals and entire Negro officered Army Divisions, and an entire Negro naval units. The appointment of Special Negro Counsels and administrative assistants to assist members of the President's cabinet and the National Defense Commission was also recommended.

Would Have Negro "Annapolis"

The 9th, 10th, 24th and 25th regular army Negro contingents were named to be officered from top to bottom by Negroes. The building of a battleship, cruiser, submarine, destroyer and airplane carrier to be eventually manned by Negroes and establishing of an "Annapolis" for training Negro navy and air pilot personnel at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, was further suggested.

Names presented for the proposed Negro cabinet were Dr. J. E. Walker, Pres. N.N.B.L., as Asst. to Secty. of War; Dr. Emmett J. Scott, former Howard U. Secty.-Treas., as Asst. to Secty. of Navy; Atty. C. H. Houston, counsel of NAACP, as a member of the National Defense Comm.; Dr. F. Patterson, Pres. of Tuskegee, as Special Asst. to U. S. Commissioner of Ed.; G. N. T. Gray, National NAPE as Asst. to U. S. Civil Service Commission; Judge Herman F. Moore, Virgin Islands, as Asst. Judge Advocate of Military Establishment; Dr. A. N. Vaughn, Pres. N.M.A. as Asst. to Army and Navy Surgeon Gen.; Bishop R. R. Wright Jr. of A.M.E. Church as Asst. To Chief Army Chaplain; Rev. L. K. Williams, Pres. N.B.C. as Asst. to Navy Chaplain; Col. B. O. Davis as Asst. to Gen. George C. Marshal, chief of U. S. Staff.



HENRY WINSTON

Winston Lashes Jim Crow Policy Of White House

OCT 24 1940

YCL Leader Addresses Youth Rally in Milwaukee

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Oct. 23. — "Unity of Negro and white youth to keep America out of the imperialist war," was the slogan raised by Henry Winston, national secretary of the Young Communist League, at an election rally, here Sunday evening.

The meeting, held in the Congo Ballroom, in the heart of the Negro district of Milwaukee, was sponsored jointly by the Communist Party and the Young Communist League. About 300 enthusiastic people gathered to hear Winston, Ned Sparks, state secretary of the Communist Party, and Scott Watson, state secretary of the Young Communist League.

Winston, in urging unity of Negro and white to counteract the assault on democracy and civil liberties by reaction, exposed the Administration's "divide and rule" policy to perpetuate the rule of Wall Street.

"President Roosevelt, by officially sanctioning a policy of maintaining Jim-Crow regiments in the army, Winston said, "speaks with the voice of the past, with the voice of Adolf Hitler. This shameful and disgraceful attitude is breeding a lynch spirit and mob violence throughout the country. The growing number of lynchings in the South can be blamed directly on the White House for its approval of a program of Negro discrimination and oppression."

A VOTE FOR WAR

"The Negro people, by voting for Roosevelt or Willkie, are not only voting for war, but voting to perpetuate this whole system of discrimination. Both of the major parties are united on Wall Street's program of war abroad and reaction at home. The only candidates who offer a real alternative are the candidates of the Communist Party. Our national candidates, Earl Browder and James W. Ford express the real needs of all the people, Negro and white.

"In this election, he added, "the people must vote Communist, not only to express their united will for peace, but also to give a tremendous impetus for the formation of a third party around which the common people of our country can unite to guarantee that the United States will remain out of war, and bring full democracy to all. Only by this unity will we guarantee that the American people will pass from the kingdom of necessity to the kingdom of freedom."

Sparks, in his address, laid bare the big business anti-labor set-up of the Wisconsin "defense council," and spoke on behalf of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League.

DISCRIMINATION

White House Charged With Trickery Announcing Jim Crow Policy of Army

OCT 18 1940

New York — A statement from the White House October 9 implying that a committee of three persons, including Walter White, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., had approved a policy of segregation for Negro units in the Army, was repudiated and denounced here October 10 in a prompt telegram of protest to President Roosevelt.

The United Press account of the White House statement declared: not being accepted.

"White House Secretary Early said the segregation policy was approved after Mr. Roosevelt had conferred with Walter White, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and two other Negro leaders, etc."

The telegram, signed by Mr. White, A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and at present an assistant in the National Youth Administration, declared "in a written memorandum we submitted we specifically repudiated segregation."

On other points of policy enunciated by the White House statement, the telegram declared: "We most vigorously protest your approval of War Department policy regarding Negroes in armed forces which precludes Negro officers except chaplains and doctors in regular army units other than two national guard regiments staffed by Negro officers. We deny statement that 'at arsenals and

army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment."

"We ask proof that even one Negro is now being given aviation training as pilot in army air corps. As recently as October first, nineteen forty the Adjutant General of the War Department wrote 'applications from colored persons for flying cadet appointment or for enlistment in the Air Corps are not being accepted.'

"We further vigorously question your statement that morale is splendid in existing Negro units of the regular army. Many enlisted men in these segregated units have made repeated protests at being forced to serve as hostlers and servants to white army officers. We further question that jim crow policy of army 'has been proven satisfactory.' It has never been satisfactory nor is it now to Negro Americans. Such segregation has been destructive of morale and has permitted prejudiced superiors to exercise their bigotry on defenseless Negro regiments.

"We are inexpressibly shocked that a President of the United States at a time of national peril should surrender so completely to enemies of Democracy who would destroy national unity by advocating segregation. Official approval by the Commander-In-Chief of the Army and Navy of such discrimination and segregation is a stab in the back of Democracy. It is a tragic coincidence that you issued your statement on the same day the coup de grace was given by Senate Majority Leader Alben Barkley to the Anti-Lynching bill. The two acts are a double blow at the patriotism of twelve million Negro citizens."

OCT 18 1940

The NAACP has sent a letter to its 600 branches, youth councils

An important part of the N. A. C. P. protests and activities upon the employment of Negroes in arsenals, navy yards, and industrial plants which have been awarded contracts under the national defense program.

The NAACP announced that the whole section of policy dealing with Negro army officers will be plan to put Negro officers "on the skids" and eventually eliminate them altogether.

and college chapters urging active and continued protest against President Roosevelt's jim crow national defense policy. The letter asks action before election day to make the protests of Negro Americans most effective.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE, 1940

WOULD NAME A BLACK CABINET Advocates Group Also Army-Navy Units Separate

WASHINGTON, D. C., — Oct. 23 — The U. S. Government Employees convention headed by Edgar G. Brown and representing 30,000 Negro federal employees meeting at Shiloh Baptist Church Sunday passed resolutions asking President Roosevelt for Negro Major Generals and entire Negro officered Army Divisions, and an entire Negro naval units. The appointment of Special Negro Counsels and administrative assistants to assist members of the President's cabinet and the National Defense Commission was also recommended.

"Annapolis"
The 9th, 10th, 24th and 25th regular army Negro contingents were named to be officered from top to bottom by Negroes. The building of a battleship, cruiser, submarine, destroyer and airplane carrier to be eventually manned by Negroes and establishing of an "Annapolis" for training Negro navy and air pilot personnel at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, was further suggested.

Names presented for the proposed Negro cabinet were Dr. J. E. Walker, Pres. N.N.B.L., as Asst. to Secy. of War; Dr. Emmett J. Scott, former Howard U. Secy.-Treas. as Asst. to Secy. of Navy; Atty. C. H. Houston, counsel of NAACP, as a member of the National Defense Comm.; Dr. F. Patterson, Pres. of Tuskegee, as Special Asst. to U. S. Commissioner of Ed.; G. N. T. Gray, National NAPE as Asst. to U. S. Civil Service Commission; Judge Herman F. Moore, Virgin Islands, as Asst. Judge Advocate of Military Establishment; Dr. A. N. Vaughn, Pres. N.M.A. as Asst. to Army and Navy Surgeon Gen.; Bishop R. R. Wright Jr. of A.M.E. Church as Asst. To Chief Army Chaplain; Rev. L. K. Williams, Pres. N.B.C. as Asst. to Navy Chaplain; Col. B. O. Davis as Asst. to Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of U. S. Staff.



HENRY WINSTON

Winston Lashes Jim Crow Policy Of White House OCT 24 1940 YCL Leader Addresses Milwaukee

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Oct. 23 — "Unity of Negro and white youth to keep America out of the imperialist war" was the slogan raised by Henry Winston, national secretary of the Young Communist League, at an election rally, here Sunday evening.

The meeting held in the Congo Square, in the heart of the Negro district of Milwaukee, was sponsored jointly by the Communist Party and the Young Communist League. About 300 enthusiastic people gathered to hear Winston, Ned Sparks, state secretary of the Communist Party, and Scott Watson, state secretary of the Young Communist League.

Winston, in urging unity of Negro and white to counteract the assault on democracy and civil liberties by reaction, exposed the Administration's "divide and rule" policy to perpetuate the rule of Wall Street.

Jim Crow
"President Roosevelt, by officially sanctioning a policy of maintaining Jim-Crow regiments in the army," Winston said, "speaks with the voice of the past, with the voice of Adolf Hitler. This shameful and disgraceful attitude is breeding a lynch spirit and mob violence throughout the country. The growing number of lynchings in the South can be blamed directly on the White House for its approval of a program of Negro discrimination and oppression."

A VOICE FOR WAR

"The Negro people, voting for Roosevelt or Wilkie, are not only voting for war, but voting to perpetuate this whole system of discrimination. Both of the major parties are united on Wall Street's program of war abroad and reaction at home. The only candidates who offer a real alternative are the candidates of the Communist Party. Our national candidates, Earl Browder and James W. Ford express the real needs of all the people, Negro and white."

"In this election, he added, 'the people must vote Communist, not only to express their united will for peace, but also to give a tremendous impetus for the formation of a third party around which the common people of our country can unite to guarantee that the United States will remain out of war, and bring full democracy to all. Only by this unity will we guarantee that the American people will pass from the kingdom of necessity to the kingdom of freedom.'

Sparks, in his address, laid bare the big business anti-labor set-up of the Wisconsin "defense council," staffed by Negro officers, and spoke on behalf of the Communist Party's candidate for governor, Fred Bassett Blair. A recording of Browder's speech to the youth completed the meeting.

DISCRIMINATION

White House Charged With Trickery Announcing Jim Crow Policy of Army

OCT 18 1940

New York — A statement from the White House October 9 implying that a committee of three persons, including Walter White, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., had approved a policy of segregation for Negro units in the Army, was repudiated and denounced here October 10 in a prompt telegram of protest to President Roosevelt. The United Press account of the White House statement declared: "not being accepted."

"White House Secretary Early said the segregation policy was your statement that morale is approved after Mr. Roosevelt had splendid in existing Negro units of conferred with Walter White, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and two other Negro leaders being forced to serve as hostlers for the advancement of Negroes."

The telegram signed by Mr. A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and at present should be completely to an assistant in the National Youth Administration, declared "In a destroy national unity by advocating written memorandum we submitted by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of such discrimination and segregation is a stab in the back of Democracy. It is a tragic coincidence that you issued the telegram declared: 'We most vigorously protest your statement on the same day by approval of War Department policy regarding Negroes in armed Senate Majority Leader Alben Barkley to the Anti-Lynching bill. The two acts are a double blow at Negroes except chaplains and doctors. The NAACP has sent a letter to its 600 branches, youth councils and college chapters urging active and continued protest against President Roosevelt's Jim Crow national defense policy. The letter asks action before election day to make the protests of Negro Americans most effective."

army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment. Negro is now being given aviation training as pilot in army air corps. As recently as October first, nine of the War Department wrote 'applications from colored persons for flying cadet appointment or for enlistment in the Air Corps are not being accepted.'

"We further vigorously question the statement that morale is splendid in existing Negro units of the regular army. Many enlisted men in these segregated units have made repeated protests at the advancement of Negroes to white army officers and servants to white army officers. We further question that Jim Crow policy of 'army' has been characterized by the N. A. A. C. P. as a 'trick' to give the proven 'satisfactory.' It has never been satisfactory nor is it now to Negro Americans! Such segregation has been destructive of morale and to remove the pressure from Negro Americans and has permitted prejudiced soldiers to exercise their bigotry, on defenseless Negro regiments."

An important part of the N. A. A. C. P. protests and activities will be upon the employment of Negroes in arsenals, navy yards, and industrial plants which have been awarded contracts under the national defense program.

The NAACP announced that the whole section of policy dealing with Negro army officers will be plan to put Negro officers "on the skids" and eventually eliminate them altogether.

and college chapters urging active and continued protest against President Roosevelt's Jim Crow national defense policy. The letter asks action before election day to make the protests of Negro Americans most effective."

Humor Accompanies Tragedy In South Carolina Registration

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.
GREENVILLE, S. C., Oct. 24—(ANP)—Greenville along with hundreds of other southern cities are proud of their colored teachers. Called upon for the first time to act in an official capacity in the conduct of the draft registration the colored teachers have acquitted themselves splendidly. Previous to registration day colored citizens were somewhat doubtful as to the ability of the colored teachers to cope with the registration. This was because the estimated number of colored men to be registered in every South Carolina community nearly equaled that of the whites. The number of white teachers, however, outnumbered the colored teachers by a wide margin. The matter of illiteracy among the registrants was almost exclusively a problem for the colored teachers.

In spite of all this the teachers have come through with flying colors. By 2 o'clock several schools reported having registered over 500 men. As usual the quick wit of the Negro was evident. Overhead around the schools were the following: "I hope Uncle Sam calls me soon, I want to take up flying." "Boy, you have been flying for a long time, from work." "I don't reckon the Klan will stop this registration." The reference being to the hectic day during the summer of 1939 when the mass registration of colored voters was stopped by the Ku Klux Klan.

"If these school teachers are good enough to do this job for Uncle Sam, we men are going to do a good job too, if we are called."

A white man viewing a Negro's card was heard to remark, "I did not know that colored teachers wrote such fine hands."

Some confusion was caused when a few registrants asked about the person who would always know their whereabouts gave the name of a woman and then when asked about the relationship replied, "That's my woman."

WHITE, S. C. PRINCIPAL DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE OATH WITH NEGROES

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.
OCT 26 1940
"I Believe in White Supremacy," He Tells Clerk ...
But His Squawk Doesn't Do Him Any Good.

MONKS CORNER, S. C., Oct. 24—(ANP)—"White supremacy," the ugly dragon of race prejudice and its perpetuation, reared its head here Friday as Negro and white school teachers met at the Berkeley County high school, white, to receive final instructions preparatory to general registrations last Thursday. It climaxed the assignment of two Negroes in official capacity to administer registration in Berkeley county.

Following disposal of business of the meeting, Pete Meyer, clerk of the county court, was about to administer the oath, the principal of the white grammar graded school at St. Stephens arose and told the clerk, "I am a true leytite, and I believe in white supremacy. I am asking that I be sworn in separately."

Loud murmurs of condemnation burst from the gathering of 125 colored and 150 white teachers. In a polite but indignant tone, the clerk of court replied:

"I have had no orders for any separation of distinction. Gentlemen, will you stand and be sworn in?"

The two Negro officials appointed were Prof. R. A. Ready, principal of the Berkeley Training high school for colored here, and Prof. William Seymour of Russellville, S. C.

White Principal Asks For Separate Oath When He Is Sworn In With Negroes

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City
OCT 26 1940
"I Have Had No Orders for Any Separation or Discrimination" He It Told by Judge

Negroes and Whites Frown At Request

MONKS CORNER, S. C.—(ANP)—"White supremacy," the ugly dragon of race prejudice and its perpetuation, reared its head here Friday as Negro and white school teachers met here at the Berkeley county high school, whit, to receive final instructions preparatory to general registrations last Thursday. It climaxed the assignment of two Negroes in official capacity to administer registration in Berkeley county.

OCT 26 1940
Following disposal of business of the meeting, Pete Meyer, clerk of the county court, was about to administer the oath, the principal of the white grammar grade school at St. Stephens arose and told the clerk, "I am a true Berkeleyite and I believe in white supremacy. I am asking that I be sworn in separately."

Loud murmurs of condemnation burst from the gathering of 125 colored and 150 white teachers. In a polite but indignant tone, the clerk of court replied: "I have no orders for any separation or discrimination. Gentlemen, will you stand and be sworn in?"

The two Negro officials appointed were Prof. R. A. Ready, principal of the Berkeley Training high school for colored here, and Prof. William Seymour of Russellville, S. C.

Harlem Answers Jim Crow Order For Army At Protest Meeting

NOV - 2 1940
Harlem's answer to the jim crow policy of the War Department, issued recently with the official sanction of President Roosevelt, came Sunday when a mass meeting and parade was held under auspices of the Citizens' Committee for Equal Rights in National Defense.

Lester B. Granger, assistant executive secretary of the National Urban League, was chairman of the meeting. Among the speakers he introduced were Dr. Hudson J. Oliver, National Education Director of the IBPOE of W.; Milton Jackson, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church and Dr. Geo. Thorne who presented resolutions which were adopted and ordered sent to President Roosevelt.

Attorney Charles Houston, former dean of Houston University Law School, the principal speaker for the afternoon, emphasized the fact that the Negro has moved from a minority to a majority position. He vigorously attacked the jim crow policies of the War Department and the statement of the President.

Negro Federal Employees Ask Separate Army Units

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—(A.P.)—A meeting of the United Government employees, which claims to represent 30,000 negroes holding federal jobs, approved today the army's plan to segregate negro soldiers in negro units "provided one or more divisions of the army shall be officered completely by negro officers from major general down."

The organization's resolution also conditioned its approved of segregation upon the navy's providing one battleship, cruiser, submarine, destroyer and aircraft carrier "to be eventually manned and officered by negro sailors and to this end set up an 'Annapolis' for training such negro navy and air pilot personnel at St. Thomas Virgin Islands."

Chicago Negroes Rally to Halt Discrimination in Defense Industry, Army

NOV 14 1940

Dr. Max Yergan Urges Strengthening of Political Power in Order to Bring People Jobs— Resolution Hits Syndicalism Cases

By Harold Preece
(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 13.—Chicago Negro organizations were today marshalling their forces to stop discrimination against Negroes in the defense industries and in the army following the first Illinois state conference of the National Negro Congress. The conference represented a cross-section of the state's aroused Negro population, determined to wipe out discrimination in every form. Delegates were present from numerous AFL, CIO, and independent unions; fraternal, civic, and religious organizations.

Five hundred delegates and visitors attended the mass meeting Sunday at Greater Bethesda Church, 53rd and Michigan Ave., which closed the conference. To an enthusiastic audience, Dr. Max Yergan, national president of the Congress, pointed out:

"The recent elections solved no problems for the Negro people. Instead, they emphasize those problems of discrimination, disfranchisement, and mass hunger which our people must solve along with the great majority of their white fellow-Americans.

BARRED FROM JOBS

"The National Negro Congress should dedicate itself to strengthening the political power of Negro America in order that our people may earn livings on an equal basis with all other citizens, in order that we may have jobs and the security which comes from jobs.

"The people who put over constitution against the wishes of the Negro people told us that the national defense program would mean more jobs for our people. But

already we are being barred from many defense industries, including aviation, because of our color." Rev. Matthew W. Clair, pastor of St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church, said that "Negroes must join with all other minority groups to preserve democracy in America."

"The Negro people in the states where Negroes are not barred from voting by the poll tax must vote for their brothers who are disfranchised in the South," said Rev. Clair.

"We can no longer think in terms of political parties but in terms of our needs as a minority group—whether we live North or South.

"Clearly, if other minority groups are threatened, we Negroes are also threatened. If we are threatened, they are threatened.

"Some people have gotten pretty frantic about 'democracy' overseas without seeing the daily denials of democracy in America. World imperialism is in a death grapple and its death means freedom for the peoples who are oppressed."

The conference, adopted on the recommendation of Dean H. M. Smith of Chicago Baptist Institute, chairman of the civil liberties panel, a ringing resolution against recent violations of the Bill of Rights. The resolution scored abuses perpetrated upon minority political,

religious, and racial groups. It demanded the discharge of four Chicagoans charged with criminal syndicalism at Lewistown, Ill., and of 12 Oklahomans facing similar charges in Oklahoma City; an end to police attacks against 200 striking Negro taxi drivers affiliated with Local 201 of the CIO Transport Workers Union and the discharge of Policeman Sylvester (Two-Gun) Pete Washington, who, with the cooperation of the Chicago "labor squad," has been arresting strikers in wholesale fashion plus the abolition of the "labor squad" itself.

Striking taxi drivers who appeared at the conference were introduced by Ishmael P. Flory, organizer of the Chicago Council of the National Negro Congress and former secretary-treasurer of the AFL Joint Council of Dining Car Employees. The drivers, with their international representative, John J. Ryan, received a big ovation from the conference and were pledged unyielding support until the taxi companies came to terms.

Color Bar In Many Big Plants

No Negroes Working In Factories Blasted

NOV 21 1940

By A. E. WHITE

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Following the more recent explosions in munitions plants and factories the Federal Bureau of Investigation has stepped in to determine whether or not sabotage has been playing any part in the blasts which have caused the loss of many lives and millions in property damage.

As late as October 3, the New York Herald-Tribune carried the following headline: "6000 Bund Aliens Listed in Jobs at Defense Plants—Dies Hearing at Newark Charges Them Scattered Among Shipyards, Aviation Factories, Munition Plants in the East—300 in One."

For sometime now the Dies committee has been plugging along, hampered at many turns and in many instances when it attempts to show the true condition existing among the various un-American organizations in this country.

NO NEGROES EMPLOYED

Looking over the situation, following the biggest blast of them all in New Jersey some months ago in recent days there have been a fire in the war department which has not yet been fully explained; three blasts in munitions plants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

However, in most of these plants no Negroes are employed. Employment is given hundreds of

aliens, many of whom have never seen a Negro in spite of the fact they are in the United States and many of whom have sworn allegiance to other governments and other organizations, enemies of the United States.

It has been the policy of these manufacturers to not hire Negro workers and as a result, they are beginning to see and feel the folly of their policies. In all of these plants close unions, it is believed, have been organized to keep Negroes out of the employment which naturally grows out of the huge defense orders now being placed.

BUNDISTS NOT BARRED

There is no ruling, however, which prevents a Bundist or a fifth columnist from being employed, and that latter term covers a multitude of operators who under various guises are working for the destruction of the country.

Law-abiding and capable Negro workers are relegated to relief rolls and kept there, while known radicals and anarchists, two terms which have faded into disuse in the past 20 years, have been permitted to take the place of the honest Negro, because of the complexion of their skins.

There will be investigations and whitewashings in the cases, it is presumed. As one person nationally known, has written, "My contact with a large number of skilled Negro in thousands of places in America, gro groups leads me to know that there are skilled Negro workers who have a real contribution to make to the defense program of America. I realize that much spade work must be done to accomplish this, but I am wondering if the Negro press of America could not be interested in a campaign of publicity directed at both the fifth column activities displayed in this Herald Tribune article and others like it all over the country and toward unearthing skilled Negro mechanics who would be valuable to the defense program. Because our Negro youth have not had an opportunity for vocational and trade training to any great extent, it seems to me especially appropriate that all of us should do everything possible to see that Negroes get training at this time, now that the country is alert to the necessity."

and ment is concerned, yet these same on Negroes boast that they have never that had a traitor in their ranks, have to never been guilty of disloyalty to their country and are always willing and ready to serve in any way. And the country has never hesitated to call on them for service in certain capacities in the armed forces of the government, but on the other hand, the same government from the scene as far as employ-

NEGROES ELIMINATED

born Negroes are plainly

from the scene as far as employ-

IGNORE MANDATE

Many manufacturers throughout the country have actually refused to accept the mandate of the defense program which insists on the hiring of Negroes in firms which receive contracts for construction of trailers to be used in the field artillery units. Others have adopted the same attitude, yet the foreign born Negroes are plainly

One in North Kansas City, Mo.

Chicago Negroes Rally to Halt Discrimination in Defense Industry, Army

NOV 14 1940

Dr. Max Yergan Urges Strengthening of Political Power in Order to Bring People Jobs—Resolution Hits Syndicalism Cases

By Harold Preece
(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 13.—Chicago Negro organizations were today marshalling their forces to stop discrimination against Negroes in the defense industries and in the army following the first Illinois state conference of the National Negro Congress. The conference represented a cross-section of the state's aroused Negro population already we are being barred from labor, determined to wipe out dis- many defense industries, including aviation, because of our color. Criminators in every form. De- gates were present from numerous AFL, CIO, and independent unions; fraternal, civic, and religious or- ganizations.

Five hundred delegates and vis- itors attended the mass meeting Sunday at Greater Bethesda Church, 53rd and Michigan Ave., which closed the conference. To an enthusiastic audience, Dr. Max Yergan, national president of the Congress, pointed out:

"The recent elections solved no problems for the Negro people. In- stead, they emphasize those prob- lems of discrimination, disfran- chisement, and mass hunger which our people must solve along with the great majority of their white fellow-Americans."

BARRED FROM JOBS

"The National Negro Congress should dedicate itself to strength- ening the political power of Ne- gro America in order that our people may earn livings on an equal basis with all other citi- zens, in order that we may have jobs and the security which comes from jobs."

"The people who put over con- scription against the wishes of the Negro people told us that the na- tional defense program would mean more jobs for our people. But

"We can no longer think in terms of political parties but in terms of our needs as a minority group—whether we live North or South."

"Clearly, if other minority groups are threatened, we Negroes are also threatened. If we are threat- ened, they are threatened."

"Some people have gotten pretty frantic about 'democracy' overseas without seeing the daily denials of democracy in America. World im- perialism is in a death grapple and its death means freedom for the peoples who are oppressed."

The conference, adopted on the recommendation of Dean H. M. Smith of Chicago Baptist Institute, chairman of the civil liberties

panel, a ringing resolution against the recent violations of the Bill of Rights. The resolution scored abuses per- petrated upon minority political,

religious, and racial groups. It de- manded the discharge of four Chicagoans charged with criminal syndicalism at Lewistown, Ill., and of 12 Oklahomans facing similar charges in Oklahoma City; an end to police attacks against 200 strik- ing Negro taxi drivers affiliated with Local 201 of the CIO Trans- port Workers Union and the dis- charge of Policeman Sylvester (Two-Gun) Pete Washington, who, with the cooperation of the Chi- cago "labor squad," has been ar- resting strikers in wholesale fashion plus the abolition of the "labor squad" itself.

Rev. Matthew W. Clair, pastor of St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church, said that "Negroes must join with all other minority groups to preserve democracy in America."

"The Negro people in the states where Negroes are not barred from voting by the poll tax must vote for their brothers who are dis- franchised in the South," said Rev. Clair.

"The National Negro Congress and former secretary-treasurer of the AFL Joint Council of Dining Car Employees. The drivers, with their international representative, Johnat Defense Plants—Dies Hearing

J. Ryan, received a big ovation from the conference and were re- tained until Factories, Munition Plants in the tax companies came, to terms East—300 in One."

For sometime now the Dies committee has been plugging along, hampered at many turns and in many instances when it attempts to show the true condition existing among the various un-American organizations in this country.

Looking over the situation, fol- lowing the biggest blast of them all toward unearthing skilled Negro in New Jersey some months ago mechanics who would be valuable in recent days there have been fire in the war department which our Negro youth have not had any three blasts in munitions plants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. However, in most of these plants no Negroes are employed. Em- ployment is given hundreds of

Color Bar in Many Big Plants

No Negroes

Working In

Factories Blasted

NOV 21 1940

WASHINGTON—(A. N. F.)—Fol- lowing the more recent explosion destruction of the country. in munitions plants and factories. Law-abiding and capable Negro the Federal Bureau of Investiga- tion has stepped in to determine whether or not sabotage has been radicals and anarchists, two terms playing any part in the loss of the past 20 years, have been per- many lives and millions in pro- mitted to take the place of the honest Negro, because of the com- plexion of their skins.

As late as October 3, the New York Herald-Tribune carried the following headline: "6000 Bund Agents Listed in Jobs. Aviation in thousands of places in America. there are skilled Negro workers who have a real contribution to make to the defense program of America. I realize that much spade work must be done to accomplish this, but I am wondering if the Negro press of America could not be interested in a campaign of publicity directed at both the fifth column activities displayed in this Herald Tribune article and others like it all over the country and toward unearthing skilled Negro mechanics who would be valuable to the defense program. Because our Negro youth have not had any opportunity for vocational and trade training to any great extent, it seems to me especially ap- propriate that all of us should do everything possible to see that Ne- groes get training at this time, now that the country is alert to the necessity."

There is no ruling, however, which prevents a Bundist or a fifth columnist from being employ- ed, and that latter term covers a multitude of operators who under various guises are working for the destruction of the country. Law-abiding and capable Negro workers are relegated to relief rolls and kept there, while known radicals and anarchists, two terms which have faded into disuse in the past 20 years, have been per- mitted to take the place of the honest Negro, because of the com- plexion of their skins.

There will be investigations and the whitewashings in the cases, it is presumed. As one person nationally known, has written, "My contact with a large number of skilled Ne- gro groups leads me to know that there are skilled Negro workers who have a real contribution to make to the defense program of America. I realize that much spade work must be done to accomplish this, but I am wondering if the Negro press of America could not be interested in a campaign of publicity directed at both the fifth column activities displayed in this Herald Tribune article and others like it all over the country and toward unearthing skilled Negro mechanics who would be valuable to the defense program. Because our Negro youth have not had any opportunity for vocational and trade training to any great extent, it seems to me especially ap- propriate that all of us should do everything possible to see that Ne- groes get training at this time, now that the country is alert to the necessity."

NO NEGROES EMPLOYED

Looking over the situation, fol- lowing the biggest blast of them all toward unearthing skilled Negro in New Jersey some months ago mechanics who would be valuable in recent days there have been fire in the war department which our Negro youth have not had any three blasts in munitions plants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. However, in most of these plants no Negroes are employed. Em- ployment is given hundreds of

aliens, many of whom have never seen a Negro in spite of the fact they are in the United States and many of whom have sworn allegi- ance to other governments and other organizations, enemies of the United States. It has been the policy of these manufacturers to not hire Negro workers and as a result, they are beginning to see and feel the folly of their policies. In all of these plants close unions, it is believed, have been organized to keep Ne- groes out of the employment which naturally grows out of the huge defense orders now being placed. RUNDISTS NOT BARRED

There is no ruling, however, which prevents a Bundist or a fifth columnist from being employ- ed, and that latter term covers a multitude of operators who under various guises are working for the destruction of the country. Law-abiding and capable Negro workers are relegated to relief rolls and kept there, while known radicals and anarchists, two terms which have faded into disuse in the past 20 years, have been per- mitted to take the place of the honest Negro, because of the com- plexion of their skins.

There will be investigations and the whitewashings in the cases, it is presumed. As one person nationally known, has written, "My contact with a large number of skilled Ne- gro groups leads me to know that there are skilled Negro workers who have a real contribution to make to the defense program of America. I realize that much spade work must be done to accomplish this, but I am wondering if the Negro press of America could not be interested in a campaign of publicity directed at both the fifth column activities displayed in this Herald Tribune article and others like it all over the country and toward unearthing skilled Negro mechanics who would be valuable to the defense program. Because our Negro youth have not had any opportunity for vocational and trade training to any great extent, it seems to me especially ap- propriate that all of us should do everything possible to see that Ne- groes get training at this time, now that the country is alert to the necessity."

the Standard Steel Works, later in workers receive preference and ment is concerned, yet these same on Negroes boast that they have never had a traitor in their ranks, have plenty of hindrances to never been guilty of disloyalty to the progress of the work and are always will- ing and ready to serve in any way. And the country has never hesitat- ed to call on them for service in certain capacities in the armed forces of the government, but on the other hand, the same govern-

Many manufacturers throughout the country have actually refused never employed Negro skilled la- bor and had no intention of chang- ing there are plenty of hindrances to the progress of the work and are always will- ing and ready to serve in any way. And the country has never hesitat- ed to call on them for service in certain capacities in the armed forces of the government, but on the other hand, the same govern-

Many manufacturers throughout the country have actually refused never employed Negro skilled la- bor and had no intention of chang- ing there are plenty of hindrances to the progress of the work and are always will- ing and ready to serve in any way. And the country has never hesitat- ed to call on them for service in certain capacities in the armed forces of the government, but on the other hand, the same govern-

IGNORE MANDATE

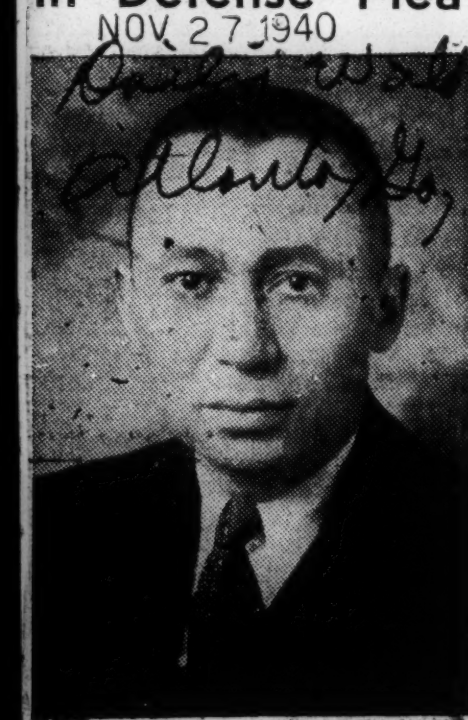
Many manufacturers throughout the country have actually refused never employed Negro skilled la- bor and had no intention of chang- ing there are plenty of hindrances to the progress of the work and are always will- ing and ready to serve in any way. And the country has never hesitat- ed to call on them for service in certain capacities in the armed forces of the government, but on the other hand, the same govern-

...has let the Negro be discriminated against in every possible manner in civilian life.

Comes now the showdown. Which group will the industrialists want the willing, capable, loyal Negro, or the untrustworthy Nordics, who have to be watched at every turn and then get away with the most heinous of crimes.

Too much is now at stake to permit these unchanged aliens to wreck a country which Negroes have helped make great, and it is up to the Negroes themselves to rouse themselves from their complacency and satisfaction of being taken care of by a generous government and look to their own futures.

In Defense Plea



Rayford W. Logan, professor of history at Howard University, head of a committee of the Hampton (Virginia) Institute Conference on Negro Participation in National Defense which Tuesday deplored "the fact that practically no Negroes have been appointed to West Point."

Youth Declare Something Should Be Done About 'Closed Doors' to Negroes in Army

NOV 21 1940

A panel discussion of "Conscription" simmered down to the fine points between "segregation and discrimination" Tuesday night when a group of interested citizens assembled at the Blue Triangle branch Y. W. C. A. to hear the pros and cons of the subject.

Sponsored by the public affairs committee of the branch Y. W. C. A., the speakers were Atty. S. Joe Brown a government appeal agent of Polk County draft board No 4; J. Wellington Howard, a Drake university student; and, Mansen L. James, a young business man and one of the conscripts.

In opening the discussion from his point of view, the pioneer Iowa attorney, Mr. Brown, made it plain to his audience, composed of mothers, fathers and young men affected by conscription, that "I am not a member of the draft board. I have no vote on whether your boy or husband is called."

He explained that his duty as a government appeal agent was to represent government in seeing that the man is not represented too low or to represent the man if he is classified too high.

Atty. Brown explained the meaning of "draft" or "conscription" going back to the Civil War when the government introduced an impartial means of selecting men for service in the army. He stressed the fact that conscription today is for military training—not for military service, at this time.

The attorney pointed out that of the men who registered October 18, and whose numbers were drawn in the lottery "may never be called."

The men who volunteer for selective service will be called first.

The fact that new rules and regulations were being released daily by the government, Mr. Brown stated, caused him to spend most of his time reading and analyzing the publications to keep abreast with the

"laws" of conscription.

Mr. Howard, the Drake student, spoke from a viewpoint of how the Negro was concerned with conscription. He cited the "few changes" that had been made in the 21 years since the last war.

"The grave concern of the Negro today is what part he will play in training camps," the young man stated. "Certainly, something ought to be done," he said, pointing out the fact that Negroes play no part in the navy, except as mess men.

"The war today is different from the wars before," Mr. Howard commented and added that "Hitler has won as many battles by race hatred as he has with guns. There should be a conscription of the morale of this democracy."

Mr. James, a young business man as well as a conscript, declared that he was "for and against" conscription.

"I am for it because it forces those who are not loyal enough to want to serve their country to register. I am against it because it closes doors to those who have always been open and have wanted to serve their country."

From the records of history Mr. James pointed out the parts that Negroes have played in protecting their country from 1492 when Columbus discovered America, through the Civil, Spanish and World wars.

"Why then this closing of doors to men who are loyal?" he asked, and pointed out there has never been a Negro tried for treason.

During the open discussion by members of the audience Harry Stewart, who passed his twenty-first birthday this summer, told of his series of futile attempts to enlist in the army and navy here.

Mrs. Gertrude North presided at the meeting.

Accelerate Efforts to Open Defense Training in Alabama

NOV 29 1940

MOBILE, Ala. — Acceleration of its effort to open national defense vocational training in Alabama to Negroes was announced by the Southern conference of the N.A.A. C.P. this week. Unrelenting pressure by the conference has brought assurances from the U. S. Office of Education in Washington that all states have been advised that there must be no discrimination against Negroes in the future program, Public 812 of the 76th congress.

R. V. Billington, executive assistant in vocational training, stated in an exchange of correspondence with J. L. LeFlore, chairman of the southern N. A. A. C. P. movement, that states are now submitting plans for the new program, which will include younger groups who have not yet had work experience, and that his office in requiring that these plans definitely provide for non-discrimination. However, the southern N.A.A.C.P. chairman served notice on the Office of Education that Negroes shall not let up in their effort to be integrated into the present program. Mr. LeFlore subsequently appealed to both Sidney Hillman, chairman, and Robert C. Weaver, administrative assistant, of the Advisory commission to the council of National Defense, asking that the influence of the council be used to open educational training in the National Defense to Negroes in Alabama. Dr. Weaver has promised his cooperation toward that end.

The importance of the participation of Negroes in the program was revealed when the N.A.A.C.P. announced that four destroyers and perhaps other naval ships will be built in Mobile. In addition, Mobile shipyards may get contracts to build 28 merchant ships for Great Britain. Birmingham steel mills will furnish the steel for construction of the vessels.

And in War NOV 5 1940

THAT the administration is aware of this feeling is attested by the promotion of Benjamin O. Davis, the army's highest ranking Negro officer, to the rank of brigadier general. The administration hopes to hush protests over its Jim Crow policies through this promotion. The fact is that the Negro general will be only a temporary embarrassment to the army's anti-Negro traditions: Davis reaches retirement age next July.

But the protest will continue. The promotion of even ten Negro generals would not end the administration's discriminatory policies, either in the army or in other government agencies. For while Roosevelt tries to buy thirteen million Negroes with one general, his man, WPA Administrator Colonel Somervell, is busy dismissing Negro workers from their jobs and is carrying a long standing policy of discrimination a step further by creating "lily white" projects which will bar Negroes completely. What such policies imply was put into words by Gov. Prentice Cooper of Tennessee who, in addressing a committee of Negroes concerning the draft, asserted that "this is a white man's country," that Negroes "had nothing to do with the settling of America." Cooper, who said nothing when Negroes who were attempting to register to vote were lynched in his state last June, threatened severe punishment for Negroes who made "trouble" over the draft.

WALTER WHITE, ET AL

OCT 18 1940

We must confess that for the life of us, we do not understand just the meaning of the telegram which Walter White sent to President Roosevelt regarding the latter's statement of his present policy with reference to Negroes in the United States armed forces.

The President, as we understand the telegram, is charged by Walter White and others with fostering a jim crow policy in the United States Army. Just what is meant by this jim crow policy, we are sure was not made clear in the communication. We quote from the telegram to the President: "We most vigorously protest your approval of War Department policy regarding Negroes in armed forces which precludes Negro officers except chaplains and doctors in regular army units other than two national guard regiments staffed by Negro officers."

It will be remembered that last week President Roosevelt issued a statement defining, in a large measure, the policy of the War Department regarding the integration of Negroes in the armed forces of the United States. Note the following:

"It is the policy of the War Department that the services of Negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis. In line with this policy provision will be made as follows:

"1. The strength of the Army of the United States will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country.

"2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.

"3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by colored personnel.

"4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.

"5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

"6. At arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

"7. The policy of the War Department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense. For similar reasons the department does not contemplate assigning colored reserve officers other than those of the medical corps and chaplains to existing Negro combat units of the regular army. These regular units are going concerns, accustomed thru many years to the present

system. Their morale is splendid, their rate of reenlistment is exceptionally high, and their field training is well advanced. It is the opinion of the War Department that no experiments should be tried with the organizations setup of these units at this critical time."

We reproduce the above statement from the White House. We thought that it expressed progress for the Negro in the armed forces of the United States. It will be noticed that reference is made to the establishment of Negro organizations in every major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant. Negro reserve officers will be assigned to units made up of Negro personnel. So far as we are concerned, we will be pleased to see all the units which are made up of our group serviced by Negro officers. In fact, a whole division manned by Negro officers from top to bottom would be most satisfactory to us. Reference is made by Mr. White to the Negroes in the regular army as being in segregated units. Of course, these units such as the 24th and 25th Infantry and the 9th and 10th Cavalry are manned by white officers. But it is our opinion that the time is not far distant when these units, too, will be manned by Negro officers, and when that time comes, so far as we are able to see, there will be few, if any Negroes who will shed tears over the change.

This question of segregation of races in this country is, as most of us know, based upon race prejudice, and race prejudice is born of inconsistencies and is without reason. Thus we find ourselves fighting it on the one hand and encouraging it on the other in most of our affairs in life. Should we ask our teachers in St. Louis if they would like to see the abolition of colored schools, the pros and cons would furnish interesting debate as well as reading matter. The same would be the case if inquiry was made about our churches, Y.M.C.A.'s, Y.W.C.A.'s and many other organizations.

We might also mention here the Federal Housing Authority. This question has been discussed pro and con, but the separate housing units have gone right along just the same.

So far as jim crowism and segregation are concerned, we here and now denounce such as being fundamentally wrong and against what we call a democratic form of government. In this we believe that the Negroes as a whole agree. In fact, most of the white people of the nation agree with this, especially those of liberal mind and thought, but we doubt that the course which is being pursued by some of us will hasten the day for a change.

Finally, we want to ask Mr. Walter White and others if they are opposed to Negro units manned from top to bottom by Negro officers in any part of the armed forces of the United States. If that is Mr. White's policy, we think it should be definitely stated. And it also might not be a bad idea to state whether or not he is speaking for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Birmingham Ala Age-Herald

October 21, 1940

SEGREGATION GETS OKEH

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—(AP)—A meeting of the United Government Employees, which claims to represent 30,000 Negroes holding federal jobs, approved Sunday the army's plan to segregate Negro soldiers in Negro units "provided one or more divisions of the army shall be officered completely by Negro officers from major general down." The organization's resolution also conditioned its approval of segregation upon the navy's providing one battleship, cruiser, submarine, destroyer and aircraft carrier "to be eventually manned and officered by Negro sailors and to this end set up an 'Annapolis' for training such Negro navy and air pilot personnel at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands."

Charleston S. C. News & Courier

October 20, 1940

ACTION IS CALLED UNFAIR

Negroes Assail Roosevelt for Segregation Order

Chicago, Oct. 19, (INS)—Negro Republican leaders today assailed the Roosevelt administration as unfair to the negro race, citing the segregation of negroes under the conscription plan, and the exclusion of negroes from most branches of the federal service.

Negro leaders from thirty Northern states made the charges at a campaign coordination meeting at Republican headquarters in Chicago.

OCT 18 1940

It is the policy of the war department that the services of Negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis. In line with this policy provision will be made as follows:

1. The strength of the Negro personnel of the army of the United States will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country.

2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.

3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by colored personnel.

4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.

5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics, and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

6. At arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

7. The policy of the war department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense. For similar reasons the department does not contemplate assigning colored reserve officers other than those of the medical corps and chaplains to existing Negro combat units of the regular army. These regular units are going concerns, accustomed through many years to the present system. Their morale is splendid, their rate of re-enlistment is exceptionally high and their field training is well advanced. It is the opinion of the war department that no experiments should be tried with the organizational set-up of these units at this critical time.

Negro Youth, Tries to Enlist, Finds 'Little Room for Blacks in the Army'

(Ed. Note:- The following article, revealing his experience when he sought to enlist in the U. S. Army at Whitehall St. last week, was submitted by Philip Goding, 22-year-old Harlemiter, is published as an excellent account of the feelings familiar to countless other Negro youths who have tried unsuccessfully to enlist in the army in answer to the spirited campaign now being conducted by the Federal Government.)

Amsterdam

By PHIL GODING

News

I have not only witnessed but experienced the subtle discrimination against colored men such as I never dreamed existed anywhere today. American men, seeking to learn how to protect their homes and families from alien forces that seek their destruction are turned away coldly, bluntly. The backbone of the nation—its youth—is denied the immediate opportunity to prepare itself for a task which it can plainly see before it—that of defending their nation from a blood-lusting, unscrupulous force which even now is hurling the most destructive machinery devised by man upon all who would stand

in its NOV 9 1940

By whose orders is such discrimination practised—European dictators? Is such a situation the result of Fifth Column activities? Hardly. Those who bar willing youth from eagerly assuming its patriotic duty are acting under the orders of accredited officials of the very government they seek to defend.

I am a Negro youth, living in and enjoying such privileges as this country affords those of my race. I do not fool myself in any belief that these privileges are many—or even adequate. But, contrasting them with what is offered throughout most of the rest of the world today, I feel that, as a foundation upon which to build future freedom they are infinitely preferable.

Eager to do my part to defend these principles, I resolved to volunteer my services to the army, obtain the training offered by the government so that when the time should come I should be fully prepared.

At the U. S. Army recruiting station on Whitehall St. I found many others with the same desire. Arriving early, I found the beginning of a line which increased by the moment. On that line were men of all types. Whites and Negroes together milled around waiting for the officer to appear. United in a mutual spirit of patriotism, they smiled, talked and smoked together. The lines soon became full. Solid lines of solid men.

Then the doors opened. A sergeant appeared, ordered the M.P. to send in the first 50 men. A forward surge rippled along the lines.

The M.P. apparently had his orders well in mind. He picked out the colored men, told them to

sign their names and addresses on his pad, then sent them on their way with the words, "When we need you we'll send for you."

No further questions were asked of the Negroes. No examination was offered them. They were not even permitted inside the building.

Lines followed the disappearing backs of the Negroes with puzzled eyes. A minute before they had been comrades in the line, filled with the same patriotic desire to aid their country. Now they were being turned away without a word.

The wonderment in the eyes of the whites gradually faded was replaced by dawning understanding. They were joining the U. S. Army to learn things. And before they were ever signed up they had received their first lesson.

We Negroes understood, however. There was not one outburst. Each man turned away quietly and departed. He knew what "when we need you" meant.

A quarter of a century ago members of his race were held back until they were "needed" then hurled into the bloodiest portion of the fray—to emerge with glory on the battlefields of France.

Three quarters of a century ago, with the very existence of the Union at stake, Negroes, then still struggling to escape the chains of slavery were found very "helpful" on the Civil War battlegrounds.

A little less than two centuries ago, when the nation itself was fighting for its own freedom, Negroes by the thousands play-

ed a major part from the very first fighting.

When the call came again for men to lay down their lives, Negroes would be "needed" then. They would be cordially invited to join in the defense of "their" country and help the white soldiers who were freely given the training denied Negroes.

But at Whitehall St. these days, there is "no room for Blacks in the army."

Why?

NATIONAL DEFENSE

OCT 26 1940

Segregation of Negroes in the armed forces of the nation is not a new issue. It is a condition which has prevailed for years and which has been perpetuated and encouraged by various federal authorities at Washington. The Navy and War departments have pursued this policy relentlessly in peace as well as in war times.

Negro leaders in 1917 gave their approval when they argued and labored for the establishment of a reserve officers' training camp. The War department acceded to their demand and gave them a segregated camp at Des Moines, Iowa. Faced with the proposition of accepting either segregation or nothing, our leaders accepted segregation. In order to complete the separation a Negro was appointed special assistant to the Secretary of War.

A confused leadership helped, perhaps naively, to promote a vicious tradition at a time when black men should have insisted on their integration in the armed branches of the country. The Race might have gained a great deal, at least in self-respect, if our leaders had refused the offer of separate training camps in 1917.

If we are to fight not as slaves, but as free men under the unfurled banner of democracy, then we must enjoy the rights and privileges which our white brothers enjoy under our system of government. There can be no reasonable, legitimate refutation to this argument. But we ourselves have not consistently followed this type of reasoning. We have asked for Negro division, Negro this and Negro that, without an intelligent awareness of the defeatism incurred by such a pleading.

The issue flared up again this week under circumstances which suggest, if reports are correct, a duplication of the 1917 compromise. If this be so, then President Roosevelt cannot be taken to task for a policy which our own leaders have blessed with their back door endorsement.

Mr. Roosevelt has given ample evidence of his disposition to be fair in the treatment of racial minority problems. In nearly all of his public utterances he has advocated racial toler-

ance, goodwill and fair-play. His administration is the first to give appropriate recognition to young, competently trained members of the Race without regard to their previous political affiliations. Today, there are more Negroes drawing high salaries and, if you please, in key positions in the various federal departments in Washington than has ever been the case in the history of all antecedent administrations put together. And, the so-called "black cabinet" is not without influence with the White House.

These allusions are not beside the issue. For, they point to gains which could not have been made or countenanced under an administration hostile and indifferent to the interests of our people. Much of Mr. Roosevelt's attitude on broad social and economic questions which affect the Race is reflected in the frank, public speeches of his wife. Some of them were made not behind closed doors but on public platform and in the deep South with all the risks of political reprisals. When the powerful Daughters of the American Revolution prevented Marian Anderson from singing in their hall in Washington, Mrs. Roosevelt did not hesitate to show her resentment by withdrawing her membership from that historic organization. This she did obviously with the consent of President Roosevelt.

It is difficult for us to believe that the wife of the President of the United States would be going from place to place making statements that are in direct contradiction to the views held by her husband.

We believe that President Roosevelt is singularly free of the deep rooted racial bias which has characterized nearly all of his predecessors. His national defense program calls for the unity of the people. Such a unity cannot be obtained through the technique of segregation.

Columbia N C State
October 12, 1940

NEGROES AND THE ARMY.

After a conference between the president and Negro leaders, in which the secretary of the navy and the assistant secretary of war participated, the latter drafted a statement of policy, regarding Negroes in the national defense program, which the president approved

DISCRIMINATION

and released for publication. The statement, as given to the press from the White House, is as follows:

"It is the policy of the war department that the services of Negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis. In line with this policy provision will be made as follows:

"1. The strength of the Negro personnel of the army of the United States will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country.

"2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.

"3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by Negro personnel.

"4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.

"5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

"6. At arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

"7. The policy of the war department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years, and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense. For similar reasons the department does not contemplate assigning colored reserve officers other than those of the medical corps and chaplains to existing Negro combat units of the Regular army. These regular units are going concerns, accustomed through many years to the present system. Their morale is splendid, their rate of re-enlistment is excep-

tionally high, and their field training is well advanced. It is the opinion of the war department that no experiments should be tried with the organizational set-up of these units at this critical time."

Asheville, N C. Times
October 9, 1940

NEGRO TROOPS TO HAVE UNITS IN U.S. ARMY

Will Be Organized Separately For All Branches, White House Says.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—(AP)—President Roosevelt ordered the war department today to put into effect immediately a policy providing that the services of negroes will be utilized on "a fair and equitable basis" in the national defense program.

Announcing the president's action, Stephen Early, his press secretary, said that it followed a conference Mr. Roosevelt had on September 27 with negro leaders and Frank Knox, secretary of the navy, and Robert Patterson, assistant secretary of war. Early said Patterson thereafter submitted a statement of policy which the president approved.

The statement as given out at the white house:

"It is the policy of the war department that the services of negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis. In line with this policy provision will be made as follows:

"1. The strength of the negro personnel of the army of the United States will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the negro population of the country.

Established In Each Branch
"2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.

"3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to negro units officered by colored personnel.

"4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.

"5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics, and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

"6. At arsenals and army posts negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

of re-enlistment is exceptionally high, and their field training is well advanced. It is the opinion of the war department that no experiments should be tried with the organizational set-up of these units at this critical time."

NATIONAL DEFENSE

OCT 26 1940

Segregation of Negroes in the armed forces of the nation is not a new issue. It is a condition which has prevailed for years and which has been perpetuated and encouraged by various federal authorities at Washington. The Navy and War departments have pursued this policy relentlessly in peace as well as in war times.

Negro leaders in 1917 gave their approval when they argued and labored for the establishment of a reserve officers' training camp. The War department acceded to their demand and gave them a segregated camp at Des Moines, Iowa. Faced with the proposition of accepting either segregation or nothing, our leaders accepted segregation. In order to complete the separation a Negro was appointed special assistant to the Secretary of War. *As a result of this, the Negro leadership helped, perhaps naively, to promote a vicious tradition at a time when black men should have insisted on their integration in the armed branches of the country.* The Race might have gained a great deal, at least in self-respect, if our leaders had refused the offer of separate training camps in 1917.

If we are to fight not as slaves, but as free men under the unfurled banner of democracy, then we must enjoy the rights and privileges which our white brothers enjoy under our system of government. There can be no reasonable, legitimate refutation to this argument. But we ourselves have not consistently followed this type of reasoning. We have asked for Negro division, Negro this and Negro that, without an intelligent awareness of the defeatism incurred by such a pleading.

The issue flared up again this week under circumstances which suggest, if reports are correct, a duplication of the 1917 compromise. If this be so, then President Roosevelt cannot be taken to task for a policy which our own leaders have blessed with their back door endorsement.

Mr. Roosevelt has given ample evidence of his disposition to be fair in the treatment of racial minority problems. In nearly all of his public utterances he has advocated racial tolerance, goodwill and fair-play. His administration is the first to give appropriate recognition to young, competent Negroes trained members of the Race without regard to their previous political affiliations. Today, there are more Negroes drawing high salaries and, if you please, in key positions in the various federal departments in Washington than has ever been the case in the history of all antecedent administrations put together. And, the so-called "black cabinet" is not without influence with the White House.

These allusions are not beside the point. For, they point to gains which could not have been made or counteranced under an administration hostile and indifferent to the interests of our people. Much of Mr. Roosevelt's attitude on broad social and economic questions which affect the Race is reflected in the frank, public speeches of his wife. Some of them were made not behind closed doors but on public platforms and in the deep South with all the risks of political reprisals. When the powerful Daughters of the American Revolution prevented Marian Anderson from singing in their hall in Washington, Mrs. Roosevelt did not hesitate to show her resentment by withdrawing her membership from that historic organization. This she did obviously with the consent of President Roosevelt.

It is difficult for us to believe that the wife of the President of the United States would be going from place to place making statements that are in direct contradiction to the views held by her husband. We believe that President Roosevelt is singularly free of the deep rooted racial bias which has characterized nearly all of his predecessors. His national defense program calls for the unity of the people. Such a unity cannot be obtained through the technique of segregation.

Columbiana, N. C. State

October 12, 1940

NEGROES AND THE ARMY.

After a conference between the president and Negro leaders, in which the secretary of war participated, the latter drafted a statement of the organizational set-up of these units at this time.

DISCRIMINATION

and released for publication. The statement, as given to the press from the White House, is as follows:

"It is the policy of the war department that the services of Negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis. In line with this policy provision will be made as follows:

"1. The strength of the Negro personnel of the army of the United States will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country.
"2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.
"3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by Negro personnel.
"4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.
"5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.
"6. At arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.
"7. The policy of the war department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years, and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense. For similar reasons the department does not contemplate assigning colored reserve officers other than those of the medical corps and chaplains to existing negro combat units of the regular army. These regular units are going concerns, accustomed through many years to the present system. Their morale is splendid, and to make changes would produce

Asheville, N. C. Times
October 9, 1940

NEGRO TROOPS TO HAVE UNITS IN U.S. ARMY

Will Be Organized Separately For All Branches, White House Says.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—(AP)—President Roosevelt ordered the war department today to put into effect immediately a policy providing that the services of negroes will be utilized on "a fair and equitable basis" in the national defense program.

Announcing the president's action, Stephen Early, his press secretary, said that it followed a conference Mr. Roosevelt had on September 27 with negro leaders and Frank Knox, secretary of the navy, and Robert Patterson, assistant secretary of war. Early said Patterson thereafter submitted a statement of policy which the president approved. The statement as given, out at the white house:

"It is the policy of the war department that the services of negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis. In line with this policy provision will be made as follows:

"1. The strength of the negro personnel of the army of the United States will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the negro population of the country.
"2. Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.
"3. Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to negro units officered by colored personnel.
"4. When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to negroes to qualify for reserve commissions.
"5. Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.
"6. At arsenals and army posts negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

The policy of the war department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years and to make changes would produce

their rate of re-enlistment is exceptionally high, and their field training is well advanced. It is the opinion of the war department that no experiments should be tried with the organizational set-up of these units at this critical time."

Roosevelt Receives Protests Negro Leaders Present At Conference Deny Their Approval

OCT 19 1940

Walter White, NAACP secretary; A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and T. Arnold Hill, of the National Youth Administration sent a telegram last week to President Roosevelt protesting his approved policy of segregation for Negro units in the Army.

The three, who conferred with the President, recently, repudiated and denounced the policy and the implication that they had approved it.

The White House release said, "White House Secretary Early said the segregation policy was approved after Mr. Roosevelt conferred with Walter White, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and two other Negro leaders, etc."

This phraseology in the press was characterized by the NAACP as a "trick" to give the impression that Negroes had approved of the army jim-crow, and to remove the pressure from the President as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy.

The telegram to the Chief Executive in part says:

"We most vigorously protest your approval of War Department policy regarding Negroes in armed forces which precludes Negro officers except chaplains and doctors in regular army units other than two national guard regiments staffed by Negro officers. We deny statement that 'at arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment'."

"We ask proof that even one Negro is now being given aviation training as pilot in army air corps. As recently as October 1st, 1940 the Adjutant

General of the War Department wrote 'applications from colored persons for flying cadet appointment or for enlistment in the Air Corps are not being accepted'."

"We further vigorously question your statement that morale is splendid in existing Negro units of the regular army. Many enlisted men in these segregated units have made repeated protests at being forced to serve as henchmen and servants to white army officers."

"We further question that jim-crow policy of army 'has been proven satisfactory.' It has never been satisfactory nor is it now to Negro Americans. Such segregation has been destructive of morale and has permitted prejudiced superiors to exercise their bigotry on defenseless Negro regiments."

"We are inexpressibly shocked that a President of the United States at a time of national peril should surrender so completely to enemies of Democracy who would destroy national unity by advocating segregation. Official approval by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of such discrimination and segregation is a stab in the back to Democracy."

"It is a tragic coincidence that you issued your statement on the same day the coup de grace was given by Senate Majority Leader Alben Barkley to the Anti-Lynching Bill. The two acts are a double blow at the patriotism of twelve million Negro citizens."

The NAACP has sent a letter to its 600 branches, youth councils and college chapters urging active and continued protest against President Roosevelt's jim-crow national defense policy. The letter asks action before election day to make the protests of Negro Americans most effective."

The NAACP announced that the whole section of policy dealing with Negro army officers was a plan to put Negro officers "on the skids" and eventually eliminate them altogether.

An important part of the NAACP protests and activity will be upon the employment of Negroes in arsenals, navy yards, and industrial plants which have been awarded contracts under the national defense program.

NOTHING NEW

The proposed formation of separate Negro units in the defense forces of the nation has occasioned much criticism in some circles, and the administration has been pulled over the coals for making such a gesture. But while all this criticism has arisen, it will be a good thing to stop and think if the Negro has not always been thus segregated. Placing him in fighting outfits of his own is nothing new and the likelihood is that the separation of the races in this way will continue. In discussing this phase of the subject, the Chicago Defender, in an editorial captioned "National Defense," takes a sensible viewpoint of the situation as follows:

Segregation of Negroes in the armed forces of the nation is not a new issue. OCT 31 1940

It is a condition which has prevailed for years and which has been perpetuated and encouraged by various federal authorities at Washington. The Navy and War departments have pursued this policy relentlessly in peace as well as in

Negro leaders in 1917 gave their approval when they argued and labored for the establishment of a reserve officers' training camp. The War department acceded to their demand and gave them a segregated camp at Des Moines, Iowa. Faced with the proposition of accepting either segregation or nothing, our leaders accepted segregation. In order to complete the separation a Negro was appointed special assistant to the Secretary of War.

A confused leadership helped, perhaps naively, to promote a vicious tradition at a time when black men should have insisted on their integration in the armed branches of the country. The Race might have gained a great deal, at least in self-respect, if our leaders had refused the offer of separate training camps in 1917.

If we are to fight not as slaves, but as free men under the unfurled banner of democracy, then we must enjoy the rights and privileges which our white brothers enjoy under our system of government. There can be no reasonable, legitimate refutation to this argument. But we, ourselves, have not consistently followed this type of reasoning. We have asked for Negro division, Negro this and Negro that, without an intelligent awareness of the defeatism incurred by such a pleading.

The issue flared up again this week under circumstances which suggest, if reports are correct, a duplication of the 1917 compromise. If this be so, then

President Roosevelt cannot be taken to task for a policy which our own leaders have blessed with their back door endorsement.

Mr. Roosevelt has given ample evidence of his disposition to be fair in the treatment of racial minority problems. In nearly all of his public utterances he has advocated racial tolerance, goodwill and fair-play. His administration is the first to give appropriate recognition to young, competently trained members of the race without regard to their previous political affiliations. Today, there are more Negroes drawing high salaries and, if you please, in key positions in the various federal departments in Washington than has ever been the case in the history of all antecedent administrations put together. And, the so-called "black cabinet" is not without influence with the White House.

These allusions are not beside the issue. For, they point to gains which could not have been made or countenanced under an administration hostile and indifferent to the interests of our people. Much of Mr. Roosevelt's attitude on broad social and economic questions which affect the race is reflected in the frank, public speeches of his wife. Some of them were made not behind closed doors, but on public platforms and in the deep South with all the risks of political reprisals. When the powerful Daughters of the American Revolution prevented Marian Anderson from singing in their hall in Washington, Mrs. Roosevelt did not hesitate to show her resentment by withdrawing her membership from that historic organization. This, she did obviously with the consent of President Roosevelt.

It is difficult for us to believe that the wife of the President of the United States would be going from place to place making statements that are in direct contradiction to the views held by her husband.

We believe that President Roosevelt is singularly free of the deep rooted racial bias which has characterized nearly all of his predecessors. His national defense program calls for the unity of the people. Such a unity cannot be obtained through the technique of segregation.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 DISCRIMINATION

GENERAL

Protest and Keep Protesting

DEC 6 1940

America is preparing for defense, but feebly, with intolerance a millstone around its neck! Negroes can save it! Protest like that which Kansas City is making next Sunday should grow in volume now that the conference of leaders held at Hampton Institute last week has gathered the facts about the unAmerican way in which capital and labor refuse them work.

Protest is in self interest, but at the same time it is a contribution to the nation, because even the prejudice-blinded can see that starving a tenth of the people is not the way to union and defense.

Prejudice against the black worker is utterly indefensible. Those guilty can defend it only by reasoning in a vicious circle! They say the Negro has not skill, and therefore should not be employed. Not being employed they say training him is a waste. When they run up against a Negro of skill, they dispose of him by saying there are not enough of his kind to man a factory, that his race bars him from working along with whites! Think of it! This excuse in a country where almost half of the thirteen million persons called Negroes are partly white! Evidently the two races have not always been kept separate!

As usual we will be told "Now is not the time, you Negroes go ahead and do your duty and things will be all right." Labor strikes for higher wages, but Negroes are asked to make no protest against being refused work entirely! Cost what it may, Negroes must make America see that they are entitled to work! Protest does not endanger national life—it is as good destroyed already when it pretends a democracy which it does not practice.

Our cause is just! Let's keep fight-

ing until we are put to work like other men! Labor, entrenched behind the new laws passed to give social security, is using the power given it by government to better the conditions of favored workers. Race and color do not excuse states or the federal government for abridging the rights of citizens, yet race and color are the reason why labor and capital refuse Negroes work.

Capital blunders badly. It should see that its security is insolubly bound up with the welfare of all elements of the nation. For it to accept labor practices that create a monopoly on work and impoverish Negroes who are a tenth of the home market, is to harm business doubly. When defense spending is over and the inevitable reduction of production follows, that labor monopoly in which employers now acquiesce will enable the few workers they keep to make demands for all, for those laid off as well as for those retained. If reasonable, well and good. But if unreasonable, business will pay through the nose. DEC 6 1940

Negroes ask that which is fair, a job and a chance to be a good citizen. All social science and religious philosophy confirm them in that reasonable position. Given it, a group loyal for 150 years is added to America's defenders. Denied it, they can only be a brake on progress or worse. Let the protests rise! America must not be permitted to commit suicide! the course it is surely taking if the present practices continue of employing nationalities known to contain enemies of our country and refusing us.

Negroes at work in the automotive industry, Phi Beta Kappa degrees in white colleges, AAA buildings in colored colleges built by black hands from cellar to steeple, including plumbing, steam fitting, electrical installation, tile laying as well as the usual carpentry

bricklaying, plastering and brick making, give the lie to whoever says Negroes lack either the brain to plan or the skill to execute. All we lack is a chance! And that, if God gives us the strength, we will get!

The getting will be opposed. Other workers have their efforts at bettering their condition called social gains. But public opinion expects Negroes to take whatever is left and be satisfied. For that reason our helping ourselves will bring upon us the charge that we are "blocking defense!" Our critics may even charge us with worse! Injustice always blames the other fellow. In any event we must persist. Full speed ahead! We are entitled to a living.

LEAGUE TO PROBE REPORTS OF DEFENSE JOB DISCRIMINATION

NOV 17 1940

All persons who are discriminated against as they seek employment with factories handling defense orders submitted by the federal government, are urged to report immediately to the Chicago Urban League. Persons who hear of such discrimination are also urged to immediately report to the League which is prepared to make an immediate and thorough investigation. Recently Lester Granger, assistant executive secretary in charge of the Industrial Department of the National Urban League called a conference in Washington, and successfully worked out a plan for centralizing complaints and having them taken up with the proper governmental officials.

District Office Set Up

In addition to receiving complaints at the Urban League's main office, 3032 S. Wabash avenue, arrangements have been made for the convenience of people living in various parts of the city to leave complaints at the two Urban League Community Centers located at 2024 West Maypole avenue, and 4564 S. Indiana avenue,

and at the headquarters of the anti-juvenile delinquency program at 4703 South Parkway, second floor in the office of the Wacker company. Persons who are employed and are, therefore, unable to submit their complaints in person during the hours that the Urban League is open, are asked to submit them in writing.

Thorough Probe Promised

Each case of discrimination will be thoroughly investigated and the industrial department of the Urban League is organized to be able to handle all complaints and investigations immediately. Reports which will show unfair treatment on the part of unions are also requested, in view of the fact that at the Washington conference Sidney Hillman assured the Urban League officials that both the A. F. of L. and the CIO had agreed that there would be no discrimination against Negroes regardless of their status with labor unions in those plants handling defense orders.

THE NEGRO MUST FIGHT FOR A CHANCE IN THE ARMY AND NAVY TO STRIKE A BLOW IN DEFENSE OF HIS COUNTRY

DEC 6 1940

Race prejudice is so deep seated and damning in America the Negro, a full-fledged citizen, must fight to the death for a chance on the National Defense Program, to strike a blow for democracy; of which he is part and parcel. The law passed by a democratic Congress to regulate selective service is a joke to hide race hatred and intolerance. It provides that there shall be no discrimination against any citizen on account of race, color or religion; then destroys this principle of democracy by inserting in the law that no persons shall come into the Army or Navy not acceptable to the Army; thereby placing the veto power in the hands of the Army over the decree of the President, Secretary of Navy or War. The President is Commander in Chief of both the Army and Navy, and he knew when he signed the bill that this joker was surreptitiously sneaked into the bill; yet he signed it, which makes it impossible to admit Negroes into the regular Army and Navy, under the law as the President approved it. No Negro can enter the Army unless he is acceptable to the Army.

Everybody in America knows that both the Army and Navy are steeped in race prejudice against the Negro joining the Army and Navy, and this act of Congress looks like an effort to shift responsibility for this discrimination against the Negro to the Army where there is neither redress or appeal from its decision or judgment, except to Congress by legislative act. The law looks like a well planned act to deceive and mislead the American Negro for votes. Why should the Army have the final say-so, or last word about who shall, or who shall not enter the Army? Why set up an absolute Hitler dictatorship in our Army, or any other department of our government? Why didn't the President veto this nefarious piece of vicious legislation? If it didn't express his views of fairness, why didn't he kill it with his power of veto? It must have appealed to his sense of justice and fairness.

When Brigadier General Louis B. Hershey of the selective service administration were approached by a Negro committee fighting for the emancipation of their race from moral and mental slavery, his answer was, "I regret this state of affairs, but unfortunately, the Army has the final say-so in the matter."

The Navy is worse than the Army and the Marines, a part of the Navy, is now refusing to admit Negroes into its first forces with the knowledge and consent of the Government at Washington. After the committee had interviewed General Hershey it called on other members of the selective service in authority, and Social Security, Secretary McNutt admitted it was a vicious circle but offered no remedy. General Hershey answered further questions about training schools for Negro officers. "There have been no schools arranged for the educational training of Negro soldiers in the selective service, and the War Department will provide training schools for Negro officers if proper progress of such individuals are shown." That is to say, training schools will be established if the Army says so, from whose decision there seems to be no appeal.

Who is to determine the Negroes' qualifications or progress? Is the Army which has already judged that Negroes are unfit for service to sit in judgment on the Negroes' fitness and acceptability for service? If so, the Negroes' opportunities to get in the Army, is fore-doomed to failure. There was no such red tape required of white soldiers. Schools were opened for whites and whites are being sent to them for training, without a test of progress or qualifications. We, the Negroes demand the same treatment and preparation for the Army that was provided for the white soldiers. We know our rights and demand them as loyal Americans or know the reasons why. The Negro has proven himself worthy in every war his country has been involved in and it takes no argument to prove it. He offers the record at Washington as his proof and defies those in charge of the Government to disapprove the record. He has never deserted or insulted the flag of his country; he has never betrayed his country by selling its secrets to a foreign foe. He has never rebelled against the Union or assassinated a President of the United States. Let those in high places who discriminate against the Negro give the record of their race. The white man has furnished his country a Benedict Arnold, but the Negro never has and is proud of

his record. All the traitors are on the side of those who would keep us from striking a blow to continue democracy on this side of the ocean.

Richmond, Va. News Leader
December 7, 1940

Back Door

Negroes Charge Emporia Draft Discrimination

EMPORIA, Dec. 7. — A charge that Negroes required to register for selective military training at Emporia Oct. 16, were told by a soldier stationed at the front door of the armory to go to the back door, has been brought by members of the Greensville County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The protest of the action is disclosed in a letter addressed to The News Leader from F. A. Sealy, president of the Greensville N. A. A. C. P. unit. The letter follows:

"It has been brought to my attention that Negro registrants reporting for registration at the Emporia armory building were told by a soldier, placed at the vestibule of the building, that they go around and enter from the back door.

"We unhesitatingly protest this action by the registration officials to our men, who were called according to age and were compelled to report there for registration.

"The United States Armory, in this instance, should not be considered as the private residence of anybody to so designate entrance to potential Negro soldiers, who came there to offer their lives, and in compliance with the Conscription Law.

"It takes other than guns, ammunition, tanks and airplanes to win a war. It takes morale behind this equipment and if this morale is broken or destroyed, woe be to the country in which it happens. We have such an example in what happened to France in the present European war, but is this to be the adherent trend that our American democracy intends to pursue if we intend to stop Mr. Hitler, if, and when he should attempt to come over here? It is a very bad start; please stop it in time. We ask for the good of the service and for the sake of American democracy."

COMMITTEES FOR DEFENSE

DEC 13 1940

Believing that the time is most propitious, many leaders of our race are making a desperate effort to integrate Negroes into every phase of the National Defense. Yes, they are doing more, they are fighting that hydra-headed, green-eyed monster, race prejudice, which is playing such an important role in denying Negroes their constitutional rights.

The part which Negroes are to play in the army, the navy and other branches of the armed forces of the United States is constantly before us. We are not only concerned about joining the armed forces of this, our government, but we are also concerned about the civilian work in the industries, particularly those that have large government contracts to manufacture material for the furtherance of the defense program. We want to have our part in such work. The President of the United States has issued an order to the effect that there will be no discrimination against anyone in carrying out the defense program on account of sex, race or religion. But we all can see, and we all know that this order from the President is being brazenly disregarded by the industrial plants which have such defense contracts. Thus the question arises, what are we going to do about it? Are we to sit supinely by, as it were, and allow this thing to go on day after day, week after week, month after month, and year after years?

As a protest against these injustices a group of Negro leaders have decided upon a series of defense mass meetings to be held by Negroes throughout the country. These meetings will be for the purpose of making the public conscious of the rank injustice that is being heaped upon one-tenth of the nation's population while the world is in a turmoil fighting for democracy.

Last Sunday probably the largest meeting that has ever been held on a matter of this sort was staged in Kansas City, Missouri. Other meetings of similar nature will be held in other urban centers of the nation from time to time.

Of course, resolutions and oratory were the features, as is usual in such gatherings. And for these we have no condemnation, but action is the thing that counts. What we should like to see is an organized effort on the part of the Negroes to make a fight for the enforcement of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Federal Constitution. In them is the essence of the Bill of Rights found in the first ten amendments to the noble document which we call the Constitution of the United States. Every citizen, particularly the Negro, should read these amendments for his or her own benefit.

ARMY IGNORES RACE RESERVES, ASSIGNS WHITES

DEC 14 1940

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. — Although colored Reserve Officers are available, the War Department is continuing its policy of assigning only white officers to duty with the four long-established regiments of colored men.

Three white Reserve Officers in the Second Corps Area were ordered

ed to active duty from Dec. 6 to Dec. 5, 1941. They were directed to report for temporary duty at Fort Ontario, N.Y., and upon completion of that temporary assignment to proceed to Fort Benning, Ga., for duty with the Twenty-fourth Infantry.

The War Department assumes that its long established colored regiments will not serve satisfactorily under the command of colored officers.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 DISCRIMINATION

Lexington, S. C. Dispatch-News
October 17, 1940

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
October 15, 1940

Protest Against Policy of Segregating Negroes in Army

New York, Oct. 10.—Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, protested against the policy of "segregating negro units in the army."

They said that a statement issued from the White House had, implied that they and T. Arnold Hill, industrial secretary of the National Urban League, had approved segregation during a conversation with the president and defense heads prior to announcement of the policy.

Randolph and White said in a telegram to the White House:

"We most vigorously protest your approval of war department policy regarding negroes in armed forces which precludes negro officers except chaplains and doctors in regular army units other than two national guard regiments staffed by negro officers. We deny statement that 'at arsenals and army post negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment.'

"We ask proof that even one negro is now being given aviation training as pilot in army air corps.

"We further vigorously question your statement that morale is splendid in existing negro units of the regular army. Many enlisted men in these segregated units have made repeated protests at being forced to serve as holsters and servants to white army officers. We further question that Jim Crow policy of army 'has been proven satisfactory.' It has never been satisfactory nor is it now to negro Americans. xx x."

Army Air Corps Plans Negro Units

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—(U.P.) The War Department said Tuesday that the Army Air Corps, under a new policy, plans to set up Negro aviation units as soon as the necessary personnel can be obtained.

The number of Negro aviation will be determined on the ratio of Negro population in the United States. Each major branch of the service will contain Negro units—combatant as well as non-combatant.

The War Department said its standing policy of separating Negro and white enlisted personnel would be maintained.

Knoxville, Tenn. News-Sentinel
October 11, 1940

NEGRO AND WHITE TROOPS TO BE APART

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—President Roosevelt has approved the system of segregating Negro and white troops in the expanding military service.

Stephen T. Early, White House secretary, said the segregation policy was approved following a conference of Mr. Roosevelt, President Walter White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, two other Negro leaders, Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, and Assistant Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson.

"It is the policy of the War Department that services of Negroes will be utilized on a fair and equitable basis," it was said.

GENERAL

Our Improved Status In Our Armed Forces

NOV 2 1940

WE think the President's action's during the past few days is ample evidence of his attitude on the matter of the Negro and his role in the armed forces of the nation—of his determination to bring about greater integration of colored citizens into the fundamental activities of government.

We have witnessed the promotion of a Negro—for the FIRST time in this country's history—to the active rank of Brigadier-General in the Regular Army.

We have witnessed the appointment of another Negro—for the FIRST time while we were not at war—of a Negro assistant to the Secretary of War.

We have witnessed the calling of a Negro—for the FIRST time—to an official position in the Selective Service division, and right on the heels of the President's appointment of a colored civilian to his advisory commission on the draft.

We have witnessed the actual opening up of the Air Corps, by executive order, and the placing of Negro men—"into all branches of the service," to quote the President.

Mr. Roosevelt, himself, formally pledges in addition:

"You may rest assured that further development of policy will be forthcoming to insure that Negroes are given fair treatment on a NON DISCRIMINATORY BASIS" (our caps).

Unless Mr. Roosevelt's personal definition of words is different from ours, and the dictionary's, that is a promise of all that has been, or could be, asked for.

As we have pointed out in these columns recently, were Mr. Roosevelt the dictator, his opponents charge he wishes to be, he could forthwith change conditions and policies as old as is this nation, and let revolution come. But he is only the elected head of our government.

By act and by preachment he is trying to bring about a majority opinion that will accept non-discriminatory acts of government. The intellectually honest, the truly realistic, the sensibly militant cannot expect revolution and should applaud progress, and pretty revolutionary progress at that.

This newspaper has contended for, and will continue to contend for, the elimination of all the military, civil, economic, educational, and political disabilities and disadvantages under which we suffer unfairly as equal citizens in a democracy. When a governmental or civil leader takes notable steps toward that end, we are for thanking and encouraging him, not pillorying him.

No Discrimination

In N. Y. Draft Area

NEW YORK—Following a protest sent to Governor Herbert Lehman, by Dean William Pickens, it was announced at Selective Service headquarters here that no segregation was intended, nor will it be tolerated, in giving medical treatment to race draftees who apply either at Harlem Hospital or at the Lutheran Hospital for examination. Dean Pickens, who is a member of the New York State draft appeals board, said he had received complaints that all Negroes in the Harlem or adjacent areas were assigned to Harlem Hospital, while all whites in this area were assigned to the Lutheran Hospital.

A special notice, advising officials in the New York area of the complaint and also the rule to be followed, was sent out, following receipt of Dean Pickens complaint.

Early Tells NAACP He Didn't Mean To Infer That Conference Okayed Army Jim Crow Plan

NOV 8 1940

NEW YORK — Expressing dismay over any part he may have played in permitting correspondents to interpret the President's Oct. 9 announcement on army segregation as having the endorsement of Negro officials who conferred with the Chief Executive on September 27, Stephen T. Early, White House press secretary, told the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that he was "deeply regretful."

Early made the statement in a letter to Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, dated October 25, the same date on which the President also sent a letter to the NAACP expressing regret "that there had been so much misinterpretation" of his announcement settling War Department policy regarding Negroes in the army. The complete text of Early's letter follows:

"Since writing to you on October eighteenth, I have learned that certain newspapers have interpreted the White House statement of October ninth in a way that has caused embarrassment to you and your associates, Messrs. Randolph and Hill.

"My purpose in writing you at this time is to tell you as emphatically and as honestly as it is possible for any man to speak to another, that there was no disposition or intention on my part, when I made the statement to the press, to cause you or your colleagues any embarrassment whatsoever. If the words I used have been interpreted by any newspaper writer in a way that embarrasses you or your associates, I am deeply regretful."

"As I told you in my letter of October eighteenth, the stenographer's report of my oral statement to the press, reads as follows:

"You will remember that on September 27th the President held a conference in his office with Walter White and I think, two other Negro leaders. Present at that conference also were the Secretary of Navy and the Assistant Secretary of War. The

subject discussed at the conference and responsible for the conference was Negro participation in national defense."

"As a result of that conference the War Department has drafted a statement of policy with regard to Negroes in national defense. The statement of policy was submitted by Judge Patterson to the President, and today was approved by the President. The President's approval causes it to become or to be made immediately effective by the War Department. Here are the statements of policy."

"The meaning I intended to convey to the press—the meaning that most of the newspapermen present understood and used accordingly—was that, in all probability, there would have been no 'statement of policy with regard to Negroes in national defense' had it not been for the conference you and your associates had with the President, the Secretary of the Navy and the Assistant Secretary of War on September 27th.

"In other words, when I used the language 'as a result of that conference the War Department has drafted a statement of policy, etc.' I did not mean or intend to convey the impression that the statement of policy had been approved by you and your associates but that it had come about because of the discussion that had been held. You will note that there is nothing in anything that I said that could be used to indicate your approval of the policy or that either Mr. Hill or Mr. Randolph had given it their approval.

"As evidence of the fact that this is written to you in the best of faith I want you to know that I have told the newspapermen to whom I spoke on October ninth how my statement to them has been misinterpreted by a part of the press. They also have been acquainted with the contents of this letter to you."

Race Proven Qualified For All Positions

11-8-40
Urges Draftees To Seek More Than Mess Jobs

In Navy For Race

Negroes should insist on becoming part of the country's armed services, not only as menials but also as trained experts, Emmett J. Scott, publicist and secretary of Howard University, told members of the George T. Corbush Post Sunday at an Americanization meeting in White Rock Baptist Church, 52d and Arch streets. Scott, who was assistant to the Secretary of War during the World War, said there was "no room for segregation in the expanded Army which was being prepared for fight for this thing called democracy."

"That includes the Navy," he continued, "and that means that black men are not to serve only as mess servants, but that they should fight for the same rights for their trained experts that are accorded trained experts of other races."

Held For Draftees

The meeting, also attended by friends of the post, was sponsored in honor of possible Negro draftees in Philadelphia. Saturday, in conjunction with the program, the post entertained at a smoker and luncheonette at 4812 Fairmount avenue, its headquarters.

Sunday's meeting was presided over by Vice-Commander Alonzo Roan and was also addressed by Dr. DeHaven Hinkson, commander.

Mr. Scott, referring to opportunity offered Negro youths in the past, said:

"You have suffered from disproportionate educational and economic opportunity and from lack of health protection, but I hope you will return from the training camps better men and with the determined purpose to make this land of ours a better place in which you and we must live."

"War Futility"
Pointing out that he had said "again and again that war is futile," Mr. Scott declared that "we have the proof of it."

NINE IMPRISONED BECAUSE THEY TOLD NEWSPAPERS OF DISCRIMINATION IN SERVICE

DEC 6 1940

Mother of One Youth Fears Son May Go Insane From Harsh Treatment; Enlisted Four Years Ago

NEW YORK.—The inhuman action of Navy department officials in imprisoning nine Negro navy messmen in October because the latter protested against being subjected to intolerable conditions of discrimination reveals itself in the plea sent out by the mother of one of the boys to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urging the association to help her in "getting my son free again."

In an appealing letter to Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., the mother of one of the messmen, writing from her home in a small town, tells the story of how the Navy's treatment of her son has affected her.

A teacher in the local school system, she has already given one son to the Navy. "He died in 1937," she says, "while still in service." Fearful that her second son may go insane as a result of his imprisonment aboard ship, the mother asked the N.A.A.C.P. to push and investigation of the case, which has been widely publicized. The text of her letter which was sent to the N.A.A.C.P. follows:

"Please help me in getting my son freed again on board (ship). Every since October when he and others had published in a paper how they are being treated in service, he has been confined and denied privileges. He has been transferred from the U. S. S. Philadelphia to the U. S. S. Receiving Ship, San Francisco, Cal. But my son is still in the brig and I am worried over the situation because I believe it will affect him mentally and physically."

"He enlisted in Brooklyn nearly four years ago, and so far has never had any trouble, to be punished like this, and I don't feel that he and the others are being treated just right. I had a son to die in the Navy in 1937, and now for this to happen, it has deeply affected me. Will you please investigate the situation to the fullest and help

Negroes Barred from Defense Industry Jobs

The Call Kansas City, Mo.
Bars Skilled Workers Despite Provision of
No Discrimination Because of Race
In Labor Policy

OCT 4 1940

Despite the provision in the labor policy of the defense program which says that no worker shall be denied employment because of race or color, some industries in the Mid-west which have secured defense contracts are not hiring Negroes.

The Standard Steel Works of North Kansas City, Mo., last week was awarded a contract of \$1,182,005.20 for the manufacture of trailers to be used as field equipment in the army.

Negro men who applied for work were told that "there is no work for Negroes here." The applicants, with years of experience in machine work, were not interviewed on their qualifications and experience but were dismissed upon sight because of their race.

Discrimination Illegal

The labor policy of the National Defense Advisory Committee (published in full on page 6) includes this clause:

Workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race, or color.

The contract awarded Standard Steel is so large that an expansion of the plant has been necessary. Many new workers are being employed for the extra work, but no Negroes are being considered.

In protest against his discrimination, the Kansas City Urban League wrote Mason Thompson, president of Standard Steel, and also addressed a letter to J. C. Nichols, a member of the National Defense Advisory Commission field equipment and clothing coming under his direct supervision.

Write J. C. Nichols

To Mr. Nichols, the Urban League said:

"Since you are a member of the National Defense Advisory Commission to look after such items as clothing and field

LABOR POLICY OF DEFENSE

The Call Kansas City, Mo.
COMMITTEE CALLS FOR NO

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

OCT 4 1940

WASHINGTON. — The following statement of labor policy adopted by the National Defense Advisory Commission in connection with the defense effort was issued as industry began to receive government contracts for products to be used in the defense program.

The Call republishes the policy this week as a reminder to those industries which are not employing Negroes because of their race that they are not following the policy laid down by the government and are subject to reprisals.

The policy follows:

"Primary among the objectives of the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense is the increase in production of materials required by our armed forces and the assurance of adequate future supply of such materials with the least possible disturbance to production of supplies for the civilian population. The scope of our present program entails bringing into production many of our unused resources of agriculture, manufacturing and man-power.

"This program can be used in the public interest as a vehicle to reduce unemployment and otherwise strengthen the human fiber of our nation. In the selection of plant locations for new production, in the interest of national defense, great weight must be given to this factor.

"In order that surplus and unemployed labor may be absorbed in the defense program, all reasonable efforts should be made to avoid hours in excess of 40 per week. However, in emergencies or where the needs of the national defense cannot otherwise be met, exceptions to this standard should be permitted.

"When the requirements of the defense program make it necessary to work in excess of these hours, or where work is required on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays, over-

time should be paid in accordance with the local recognized practices. "All work carried on as part of

the defense program should comply with federal statutory provisions affecting labor wherever such provisions are applicable. This applies to the Walsh-Healy Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, the National Labor Relations Act, etc. There should also be compliance with state and local statutes affecting labor relations, hours of work, wages, workmen's compensation, safety, sanitation, etc.

Adequate provision should be made for the health and safety of employees;

As far as possible, the local employment or other agencies designated by the United States Employment Service should be utilized;

Workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race or color;

Adequate housing facilities should be made available for employees.

The Commission reaffirms the principles announced by the Chief of Ordnance of the United States Army during the World War, in his order of November 15, 1917, relative to the relation of labor standards to efficient production:

"In view of the urgent necessity for a prompt increase in the volume of production . . . vigilance is demanded of all those in any way associated with industry lest the safeguards with which the people of this country have sought to protect labor should be unwisely and unnecessarily broken down. It is a fair assumption that for the most part these safeguards are the mechanisms of efficiency. Industrial history proves that reasonable hours, fair working conditions, . . . every attempt should be made to conserve in every way possible all of our achievements in the way of social betterment. But the pressing arguments for maintaining industrial safe-

guards in the present emergency is that they actually contribute to efficiency."

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
December 7, 1940

Three Knox Negroes To Be 'Called'

Names Of Trio To Be
Inducted Friday
Are Announced

Names of the first three Negroes to be called from Knox County under the Selective Service Law, to be sent to Fort Oglethorpe Friday, were announced yesterday.

Two of those named were volunteers. They are Albert Williams, 1629 Jasper Street, registered with Board No. 2, and Lawrence Haliburton, Wilkins Street, from Board No. 3. The third is James C. Purrier, 3356 Glenfield Drive, Board No. 6.

Three more will be called, one from each of the other three boards, to complete the Knox County quota. They probably will be announced today; board officials are awaiting results of their physical examinations.

The six Negroes will leave Knoxville Friday afternoon, to arrive at Fort Oglethorpe that night. Final physical examinations will be given the next day, after which they will be inducted into the Army.

Three boards report a total of 18 volunteers since their first draftees were selected. The volunteers are subject to physical examination before they will be included in the next quota.

Board officials warned against delinquency, stating that police assistance will be used to find those who do not return their questionnaires. Board No. 3 officials announced yesterday the name of one of their registrants was given to the U. S. district attorney because of delinquency.

Any person changing his address should notify his Draft Board immediately. The serial number is required, with the written statement of the change, signed by the registrant.

*Negro Rounds Up Four
Volunteers—And Self*
Those inducted to volunteer are James McGhee and Edward Sanders, Patton Street; Jimmy Saunders, whose address Dixon did not know. The fourth will have to go to vane Street, considers himself "chief recruiter" for Draft Board No. 1. Within the past week George has inducted four Negroes registered with that board to volunteer, and has volunteered himself.

Secret Army *Courier* Order Bared

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Connecticut's Governor Baldwin Forces First Corps
Army Headquarters To Rescind Order Requesting
No Negroes Be Included In First Draft---Had Ap-
proval Of War Dep't Officials, Belief.

(Special to The Courier) NOV 23 1940
By Connecticut News

HARTFORD, Conn., Nov. 21.—Quick and emphatic protest by Governor Raymond Baldwin Monday night forced headquarters of the First Corps Army Area in Boston to rescind an order, secretly sent to all draft boards in New England, requesting that no Negroes be included in the first draft.

The attempted race discrimination came to the Governor's attention when two Hartford race men who were originally included in the first draft of 50 volunteers from Hartford, were told they were unacceptable.

No further explanation was given for refusing to accept the men, although the Selective Service Act specifically provides that there shall be no discrimination because of race, creed or color.

Governor Baldwin immediately advised the draft board to rescind the order, or he would carry the matter directly to President Roosevelt.

Lieut. Colonel Brock Putnam, U. S. A., draft induction officer, conferred via telephone with General Woodruff, Commanding Officer at First Corps headquarters, informing him of Governor Baldwin's stand.

Putnam soon afterwards announced that the restrictions had been withdrawn and that the two race men would be sent to Camp Devens, provided they could pass the physical examination. Putnam explained:

"It is not a question of discrimination. It's a matter of planning regiments."

It is understood that the ban on Negroes had the tacit approval of War Department officials in Washington, D. C.

*Army Must Revise
This Policy*
DEC 7 1940

IN a letter to the Commission on Interracial Cooperation carried in our news columns this week, Major General E. S. Adams, Adjutant General of the Army sets forth in six paragraphs the War Department's policy for the integration of colored men in the army. The whole policy, as set forth, is lacking in candor and forthright clearness on the important questions of discrimination which are arising as the Nation prepares for total defense, and one proposal, as stated by General Adams, is particularly objectionable. It is stated by the Adjutant General in the following language:

Negro Reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by colored personnel.

Pittsburgh, Pa.
This leaves four Negro units of long standing in the United States army closed to eligible Negro commissioned officers. They are the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry and the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry regiments. All of the commissioned officers of these regi-

ments are now white, and it is obvious, if the language of General Adams is understandable, that the purpose of the army is to forestall the entrance of any commissioned colored officers to commands in these units. If there is any real sense in this policy the Journal and Guide fails to see it. The army has an established policy of raising competent men from the ranks of non-commissioned to commissioned officers, and if there are no men in the above mentioned crack military units eligible for promotion, then the army has not done a good and proper job of selecting and training enlisted personnel. If there are men in these units eligible for promotion—and no one outside the army doubts that there are—then they are entitled to rise within the regiments which they have served.

The notion, nurtured in the army, that colored and white officers cannot serve in the same military units, is a fallacy bred in prejudice and a biased army tradition. The time has come to demolish it.

If the army is going to have Negro units officered by Negro personnel what is the objection of making the policy universal?

Negro Held in Navy Brig for Ouster; Protested Jim Crow

DEC 9 1940

(Special to the Daily Worker)

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 8. — A Negro youth sits incommunicado in the "brig" at U. S. Navy Receiving Station in the middle of the Bay on Goat Island, waiting for "dishonorable discharge" from the service.

Eleven other Negro messmen have already been given "dishonorable discharges," and another one will be "screwed out of the navy" when he is released from the naval hospital at Honolulu.

Daily Worker
They are 15 of the 18 messmen of the U.S.S. Philadelphia, who represented being cursed at, kicked, given accommodations inferior to those for white enlisted men, and otherwise discriminated against. They resented this treatment under "national defense" sufficiently to sign a letter to the Pittsburgh Courier, Negro newspaper, asking intervention on their behalf at Washington.

The Negro youth at Goat Island is Arval P. Cooper, native son of California, whose parents and young wife live in San Francisco.

In response to a request from the Civil Rights Council, which is joining with the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in investigating this case, P. L. Prattis of the Pittsburgh Courier wired: "Thirteen messmen from U. S. S. Philadelphia transferred to receiving ships nearest home for undesirable discharge. We do not know name of one transferred to San Francisco. All have been discharged except one in brig and one in hospital."

SEE PRISONER

Lieutenant Lindsey identified Cooper as the one in San Francisco receiving station and the one in the brig. Asked if Cooper could be interviewed, the lieutenant said he would see and call back. Permission was granted but two hours later Lieutenant Lindsey called back.

"Permission was granted before consulting with the commanding officer," he said.

"The commanding officer returned and ruled that no exceptions should be made to the regulations barring visitors to prisoners.

"However, Cooper will be discharged in a few days and you can see him then when he is out of the Navy."

DEC 9 1940

The commanding officer is Captain Coman.

Cooper's wife, Mrs. Margaret Cooper, a cousin to Paul Robeson, said they had received no word that he would be discharged, only a letter asking her and his mother to come to see him this Sunday at the receiving ship.

COURT ACTION AGAINST ARMY, NAVY CASTE

units have been authorized. These include on Field Artillery Regiment, two Coast Artillery Anti-aircraft Battalions, one Engineer Regiment for general service, twelve Quartermaster Truck Companies and one Chemical decontaminatoion company.

C. W. Nimitz, Navy Department Bureau chief made the following statement setting forth the Navy's policy of relegating colored to the service of messman only: "After many years of experience, the policy of not enlisting men of the colored race for any branch of the naval service except the messman branch was adopted to meet the best interests of general ship efficiency."

NEW YORK—Court action against the Secretaries of War and Navy to compel the acceptance of all who volunteer for service in either of these branches of the country's defense forces, regardless of race or color, is promised by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, according to an announcement made here today.

The announcement followed passage of the following resolution by a unanimous vote of the Association's board of directors at its monthly meeting held here at 69 Fifth Avenue, September 9:

"That the N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense Committee give aid to any American citizen desiring to enlist in the Army or Navy, who is refused the privilege of enlisting on account of race or color, to the extent that it will institute appropriate, affirmative legal action against the Secretary of War or the Secretary of Navy as the case may be, to compel the Army or Navy to accept such volunteer into the army or naval forces."

The resolution was passed following a report on an exchange of correspondence between the War and Navy Departments in which the Association asked that there be no discrimination against Colored in the new defense program, and that Colored citizens be integrated into the armed forces without segregation because of race or color.

Secretary of War Stimson made the following statement to the N.A.A.C.P. in a letter about the matter;

"The success of the National Defense Program can best be established by united support of the War Department plans, which have been worked out after years of study by those who have devoted their lives to these questions. Unity can be destroyed by attempting to establish a program which is contrary to the War Department's plans, by those who are not familiar either with the principles involved or the requirements of such plans."

"In the augmentation of the Army now under way, additional colored

Only White Reserve Officers Are Called

WASHINGTON — No colored reserve officers have yet been called to active duty to serve with units of the regular army which will absorb in their ranks the men selected for training under the provisions of the Burke-Wadsworth Selective Training and Service Act.

In well-informed quarters the belief is prevalent that no colored reserve officers will be detailed to duty with existing organizations or with new regiments the War Department plans to organize.

Whites Put Duty

On the other hand, thousands of white officers of the reserve corps are either on active duty with the regular army or are being called to such duty to provide the necessary additional commissioned personnel.

Reserve officers are chiefly the product of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps in colleges and universities. Those who have been commissioned from Howard and Wilberforce Universities are qualified for duty with infantry regiments only.

ROTC graduates are being used as platoon commanders in the regular army in connection with the increment of enlisted men added under the army expansion program.

OCT 4 1940
Canvass of Officers Made

Of 139,554 In
U. S. Navy Only
4,007 Colored

DEC 7 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The United States Navy, which limits colored personnel to the messman branch, had an actual enlisted strength on June 30 of 139,554 enlisted men, of whom 4,007 were colored, according to the annual report of Rear Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, to the Secretary of the Navy, made public last week.

This report classified these men, according to race or color as follows: White, 132,889; Negro, 4,007; Chinese, 136; Filipino, 1,833; Samoan, 86; Chamorro, 557; Hawaiian, 14; American Indian, 16; Puerto Rican, 16. Total, 139,554.

(Chamorros are the people of

Guam and the Ladrone, the original Malayo-Polynesian population which has been greatly modified by Filipino and European admixture.) "The fighting efficiency of the Fleet depends on the thoroughness with which the individually skilled men in the ship's company are welded into and maintained as one smooth working team," Rear Admiral Nimitz stated in his report.

"The welding of the already individually trained men into a team requires prolonged and intensive drilling. Men cannot be trained to be efficient gun pointers, range finders, or director pointers within a few months. Time is required to train such men, and they must have the experience of numerous target practices in order to be ready for the day of battle."

This requisite team work for the operation of the engineering plant at high school is advanced as one of the reasons for restricting the enlistment of colored men to the messman branch only and in the rating of mess attendant, third class, in which they may advance only to officer's cooks and officers stewards, which are below petty officer ratings.

There is no basis for this fixed determination to restrict colored personnel in the Navy to the messman branch. Colored men have served in various other ratings with distinction. The fact is that in the fiscal year ended June 30 eight colored men held ratings as commis-

sary steward, seven as machinist's mate, first class; nine as ship's cook, first and second classes, and one as musician, first class.

test of whether colored men can be welded into a team would be for the Bureau of Navigation to assign a number of non-rated men to ships and give them the same opportunity for advancement from apprentice seaman to all higher ratings and grades as is afforded white enlisted men.

Such a policy would presuppose a determination on the part of commissioned personnel to see to it that colored seamen aboard their ships had the cooperation of white enlisted personnel in the operation of the ship.

DEC 7 1940

This plan would also presuppose the admission of colored personnel to the three classes of school maintained by the Navy for special and supplementary training.

The report of Rear Admiral Nimitz shows that in the last fiscal year 7,620 men were given elementary, intermediate and advanced instruction in these schools ashore. Training is constantly in progress aboard ship also.

The Bureau of Navigation procures, trains, distributes, administers and disciplines personnel of the Navy and of the Naval Reserve, excepting the education of medical personnel. Under its immediate supervision are the Naval Academy, the War College, the Hydrographic Office, the Naval Observatory, and the Naval Training Stations.

Its primary mission is to keep the personnel of the Navy, both with respect to numbers and training, in readiness for war.

Afro American
at Shipyards

Any one of 63 attempts dis-Philadelphia, is the exclusive work of covered by investigators at the un-American groups hired in plant, if successful, would have key jobs where colored Americans caused an explosion powerful means are barred.

enough to "blow a ship to pieces." Labor at the Sun Ship- **Pro-Nazi Active** yard is primarily employed to made to connect sabotage at the clean fuel-oil waste from the in-Sun plant with Reds and Nazis, ner bottoms of ships, scaling the the Liberal Press, a labor paper sides of ships while suspended on in Chester, promises an expose scaffolds above dry-docks and of "real" Nazi activities at the wet basins, and cleaning up yards. Nothing, however, has ships' interiors after machinists as yet been said concerning and skilled labor finish their steps to take other than white tasks. workers into skilled positions.

The acts of sabotage included slashing in half heavy hoses which carried an explosive mixture of oxygen, propane and acetylene gas used in welding.

Under circumstances in which labor is employed in cleaning ship compartments, escape from the interior of any of the eight ships in process of being built at the yards, or at repair in dry-docks or wet basin, would have been impossible.

The wave of sabotage discovered at the Sun yards, revealed by a Dies investigation committee at Newark, N.J., several weeks ago, was said by investigators to have covered a period of four months past.

All of this has been going on while colored labor at the Sun plant is rigidly excluded from high paying skilled work in control of the Sun Ship Employees' Association, a company union which follows the Roosevelt Navy pattern of excluding colored people from skilled naval jobs. Approximately 800 of the Sun yard's 7000 employees are colored and roughly 80 per cent of these are laborers.

The rest work in the blacksmith shop and foundry, heavy-fire divisions, and as helpers to bolters, riveters and reamers. Several weeks ago, riveters at the

D. C. Recruiting Office Turned *Down* 569 Negroes In September

Washington's recruiting station set a new record for enlistments during September, but it did so with all whites. According to a recruiting station sergeant at 631 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, the station accepted 133 recruits in that month.

They were selected from 1,734 applicants. Although the army doesn't seem to want him, 569 of the 1,734 applying for service were Negroes. They were told that there is no quota under which colored men can be enrolled at present.

It was estimated that not more than 50 of those white applicants accepted are from the District. Others came here from nearby Virginia and Maryland areas.

If that is not enough, it developed during the week-end that it is dubious that few, if any, colored men will even have a chance to get into the army by inclusion in boards which will handle selection, deferment and exemption, and the seven-man board which will hear appeals or protests, a total of 127 persons.

Gen. Albert Cox, commander of the District National Guard, who was opposed by organized colored citizens for the post of selective service official, picked the list of prospective members sent to the District Commissioners, who, in turn, sent it to the President on last Thursday for his approval.

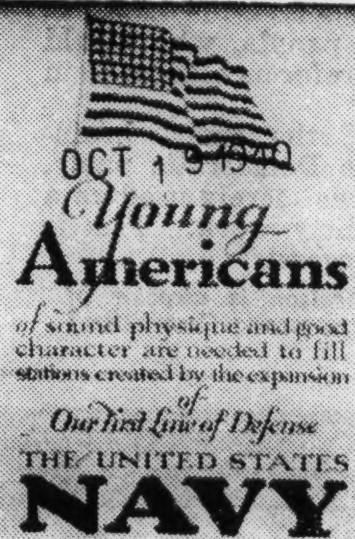
Gen. Cox will also choose medical advisers, Government service advisers and registrants' advisers for each of the 24 registration centers.

The only consolation given any of those asking representation according to population ratio is that they will be "adequately represented."

Miss Helen Moss, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peete Moss, 1940 Anna street was rushed to North Louisiana Sanitarium for an emergency operation last Tuesday morning. At this writing Miss Moss is slowly recovering. Her mother is at her bedside. Her many friends wish for her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. L. Lyons, Sr., left last week for Los Angeles, Calif., where she will visit relatives and friends. Mrs. Stella Johnson and Sonny Boy Lyons of Los Angeles spent several weeks in Shreveport with Mrs. Lyons and returned with her. On their trip they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lester McCain in Kansas City, Kansas. A very enjoyable visit there.

No! No! No! No!



President Roosevelt's Navy bans colored men except as mess men. And, no colored person can enlist in the navy despite this sign printed all over the United States.

The AFRO-AMERICAN, touring shipyards in the neighborhood of Philadelphia this week, found they too excluded all colored workers from skilled jobs following Mr. Roosevelt's pattern.

colored workers, mostly as laborers. Among these, however, are numerous long-term employees, all benefiting from the Sun interests employee-welfare plan, but none from skilled labor wages.

The Delaware County industrial area, of which Chester is the center, with its oil refining plants, steel, chemical and ship-

building works, is one of the most vitally important defense industries centers in the State. Chester also has a high percentage of foreign-born in its population.

The recent wave of sabotage along the Delaware River industrial front, while also having hit places other than Chester, created considerable concern in the acts of foreign agents while recalling the disastrous explosion at the Eddystone Amunition plant, near by Chester, on April 10, 1917.

Close to 150 men and women were killed in this explosion which was traced to foreign and pro-German agents. All victims but one, Clarence St. Clair Young of Jacksonville, Fla., were white. The list of dead read like a roster of immigrants arriving at Ellis Island.

Colored employees were almost totally excluded from this plant. This fact alone accounted for a lack of colored victims in the explosion. Germans were employed, Austrians, Italians and other foreign groups, but not colored Americans.

Exclusion of any but white workers from skilled work at the Sun Shipyard, while not being traceable to company policy, is positive and effectively worked through the employees' union. Colored workers attribute to this group a folder distributed at the plant, last month, saying "We won't work with 'n-----s'."

While the "one man" testimony of Mr. Applby attributes the series of acts to "Red and pro-Nazi" elements at the Sun Shipyard, it still remains that skilled labor at the plant is all-white with foreigners and un-American persons in key jobs.

An explosion on any one of the eight ships being built at the Sun Shipyard, or being repaired and cleaned on the drydock or in the wet basin, will result in the death of large number of laborers caught in bottoms and on the sides of these ships.

[1940?]

Say No To Physician Seeking *The Plain Dealer Kansas City, Kan.,* Enlistment In U. S. Medical Corps

OCT 4 1940

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—A graduate of the Howard University medical school, Dr. D. Vernard Bradley, was turned down completely last week by the U. S. recruiting offices here. "There are no vacancies in the army for colored doctors," the sergeant in charge of the medical division of the recruiting service said.

He was not only refused, but Dr. Bradley was not even permitted to fill out an application.

Before he applied in person, Dr. Bradley had told of his qualifications over the telephone, and he was urged to appear in person, so that he might be assigned for physical examination and so on. But once he showed up, the army would have none of him.

This treatment of the young and handsome medic, who "wanted to enlist and do my part," was told to the Philadelphia Academy of Medicine an Allied Sciences and resulted in a committee being named to protest to Washington.

Dr. Wilbur B. Strickland, president of the academy, chose Drs. Frederick D. Stubbs, DeHaven Hinkson and Arthur Thomas, all members of the U. S. Medical reserve, and Dr. G. C. Brannon, for the committee.

VETERANS TO JOIN JAMES HENRY ON 100TH BIRTHDAY

Aged Attorney Recalls

Days of Slavery.

OCT - 6 1940

The year was 1856. James Henry Lewis, a 16 year old colored boy, stood on a New Orleans wharf and watched hundreds of slaves being unloaded from sailing ships newly arrived from Africa. He saw black boys of his own age broken in health and spirit, pushed ashore in bewildered herds.



"I had never known it was like this," says James Henry Lewis today. "My mother had told me there was a God and I believed it. So I said, 'God, spare my life and I'll devote it to breaking the system that makes this possible.' Since then I've passed thru floods, fires, and wars. God spared my life. And I've tried to do his work as best I could."

Host at Reunion.

So speaks Mr. Lewis, civil war veteran and retired attorney, in his little cottage at 4409 Federal street as he prepares for his third annual reunion with members of the Grand Army of the Republic on Oct. 20. At his invitation a number of white haired old soldiers will file into the Quinn chapel, 24th street and Wabash avenue, to attend special reunion services at 10:30 o'clock in the morning. Members of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other organizations also are invited.

The service will celebrate Mr. Lewis' 100th birthday. The birthday

actually occurred on Sept. 1 but 60 days one way or another hardly makes a difference to a man who has been having birthdays for a century.

Quinn chapel, scene of each service, is the oldest colored church west of Philadelphia, according to Mr. Lewis, having been founded in 1844 as a member of the African Methodist Episcopal sect. He says he has attended services once or twice a week there for 79 years and has acted as chorister, Sunday school superintendent, and trustee.

"I've got no animosity for any man now," he observes in retrospect, "but I've always enjoyed being with the faithful rather than the hypocrites. I can feel when I'm with hypocrites just as easily as I can feel a cold breeze coming in off the lake."

Mr. Lewis was born in Lowden county, Virginia, in 1840. Because his grandfather had fought under Gen. Washington in the revolution and his father had fought under Gen. Jackson in the war of 1812, he was a free Negro. His first job was as a jockey. Later he went to New Orleans as a nurse for the son and daughter of a railroad official, and it was there that he determined to help free his countrymen.

During the first part of the civil war he was a hostler with the Fourth Illinois "Calvary." On Oct. 13, 1863 he enlisted in the Third Colored "Calvary," which was then being organized, and fought for two years, mostly in Tennessee. He never was wounded. Once he was captured and made a miraculous escape, aided by discovering a suit of civilian clothes which fit him perfectly and the drowsiness of Confederate sentries.

Aged Race Veterans Of Civil War Denied Food Near Tomb Of Lincoln

SEP 28 1940

Thinning Ranks of Grand Army of Republic Meet In
Springfield, Ill., But Black Defenders of Nation's
Unity, Bent by Years, Can't Eat In Cafes.

CHICAGO, Sept. 26—(By William Ashby for ANP)—
Here in this capital city of the third largest State in the
nation whose chief acclaim to fame is the fact that it con-
tains the tomb of Abraham Lincoln, the Grand Army of the
Republic held its 74th encampment.

When they met here in 1932, there were still thousands alive
and present, and hundreds who marched in the parade, today,
there was a total of less than 100 to register, and only a scarce two
dozen were hale enough to under-
take the rigorousness of the march
of a few blocks even on a pleas-
ant sunny day.

Five of the number registered
were Negroes. They were Henry
Mack, 103 years of age, the oldest
man in the entire encampment,
Minneapolis; James H. Lewis, 100,
Chicago; Charles Grandy, 98, Nor-
folk, Va.; Rev. Barney Stone, 93,
Noblesville, Ind., and George W.
Johnson, 92, Kansas City, Mo.

SHADES OF "ABE LINCOLN"

It was not anticipated that "the
old devil: discrimination" would
dare bob up against men who had
fought for the preservation of the
Union in the city where Abraham
Lincoln lived, where General
Grant was commissioned to take
charge of the forces of the Union
when its cause seemed almost lost,
and where the Grand Army of the
Republic was, itself born. But "the
old devil, prejudice," cares neither
for time, place nor occasion.

James H. Lewis and George W.
Johnson went into the coffee shop
of the Abraham Lincoln hotel to
get a meal. They were told that
they could not be served, and Com-
rade Johnson had the further em-
barrassing experience of being in
the escort of a white Boy Scout,
who dutifully stood with him for
15 minutes before there was
enough attention given to him to
be told that he was to be denied.
The Abraham Lincoln hotel, by the

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 HISTORICAL

GENERAL

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Star

October 31, 1940

NEGROES' PART IN NATIONAL DEFENSE

During these days of national anxiety when the chief interest of the entire country is centered upon the conscription lottery it does not seem inappropriate to refer to the loyalty and patriotism of the American Negro.

Negroes have played important parts in our wars and in times of national stress they have always extended their full cooperation. A Negro was the first American to fall in the Boston Massacre of March 5, 1770, and two Negroes won distinction at the Battle of Bunker Hill, one of them having been credited with the death of the British commander. Negro troops fought with heroism in the Battle of Long Island, and records of the Revolution show that in 1771 when Colonel Green was attacked at Point Bridge, Negro troops defended him bravely, sacrificing themselves to the last man.

R. B. Eleazer, educational director of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, of Atlanta, has prepared interesting information on American Negroes' parts in defending this nation. He says:

"Writing of the Battle of Monmouth, Bancroft says 'Of the revolutionary patriots who on that day periled life for their country, more than 700 black Americans fought side by side with the white.' General Lafayette praised the Negro troops who served under General Green. Austin Dabney, a Georgia Negro who served with distinction under Elijah Clarke, received a pension from the government and a grant from the state legislature. A South Carolina slave rendered such service that the legislature liberated his wife and children. Altogether about three thousand Negroes saw service in the Revolution.

"In the War of 1812 Negroes fought gallantly. Commodore Perry spoke highly of 'their bravery and conduct in the battle of the lakes.' Commander Chauncey mentioned the fifty Negroes aboard his ship as 'among his best men.' General Jackson publicly praised the conduct of the two Negro regiments which took part in the Battle of New Orleans.

"During the Spanish-American war, four regiments of Negro troops in the regular army distinguished themselves at Guasimas, El Caney, and San Juan Hill.

"Three hundred and eighty thousand Negroes were enrolled for service in the World war, of whom 200,000 were sent to France. They were the first of the National Expeditionary Force to get into action, and two Negroes were the first American soldiers decorated for bravery. The Croix de Guerre was awarded to four entire Negro regiments, one of which was commanded entirely by Negroes, with the exception of the colonel. Altogether sixty Negro officers were decorated. The conduct of the Negro troops was highly commended by General Pershing and other officers.

"Though hundreds of American citizens during the World war were accused of disloyalty, and some were convicted and imprisoned, not a single Negro was among the number. There is no reason to doubt that Negroes are equally loyal today."

The Negroes eligible to register in the peace-time conscription of 1940 presented themselves promptly and carried out the orders of the government.

The American Negro is patriotic to the core. He loves his country and can be counted on to extend his full and unqualified support to the Stars and Stripes in time of national peril.

Bristol, Va., Herald-Courier
November 1, 1940

The Negro and National Defense. Editor Herald Courier:

At a time when national defense and unity are matters of major concern, it is interesting to review the patriotic record of America's chief minority, the negro, of whom a million and a half enrolled in the recent registration as potential defenders of the nation. That record, to say the least, is surprising, in some respects even spectacular. Here are some of the highlights:

Crispus Attucks, a negro, was the first American to fall in the Boston Massacre of March 5, 1770. Peter Salem and Solomon Poor won distinction at the Battle of Bunker Hill; the former is

credited with the death of Major Pitcairn, the British commander. Negro troops in the battle of Long Island repelled three desperate assaults and thus saved the American army from capture. In 1771 when Colonel Green was attacked at Point Bridge, negro troops sacrificed themselves to the last man in his defense.

Writing of the Battle of Monmouth, Bancroft says "Of the revolutionary patriots who on that day periled life for their country, more than 700 black Americans fought side by side with the white." General Lafayette praised the negro troops who served under General Green. Austin Dabney, a Georgia negro who served with distinction under Elijah Clarke, received a pension from the government and a grant from the state legislature. A South Carolina slave rendered such service that the legislature liberated his wife and children. Altogether about three thousand negroes saw service in the Revolution.

In the War of 1812 negroes fought gallantly. Commodore Perry spoke highly of "their bravery and conduct in the battle of the lakes." Commander Chauncey mentioned the fifty negroes aboard his ship as "among his best men." General Jackson publicly praised the conduct of the two negro regiments which took part in the Battle of New Orleans.

During the Spanish-American war, four regiments of negro troops in the regular army distinguished themselves at Guasimas, El Caney, and San Juan Hill.

Three hundred and eighty thousand negroes were enrolled for service in the World war, of whom 200,000 were sent to France. They were the first of the American Expeditionary Force to get into action, and two negroes were the first American soldiers decorated for bravery. The Croix de Guerre was awarded to four entire negro regiments, one of which was commanded entirely by negroes, with the exception of the colonel. Altogether sixty negro officers were decorated. The conduct of the negro troops was highly commended by General Pershing and other officers.

Though hundreds of American citizens during the World war were accused of disloyalty, and some were convicted and imprisoned, not a single negro was among the number. There is no reason to doubt that negroes are equally loyal today.

R. B. ELEAZER.

Atlanta, Georgia.
Americus, Ga., Recorder
October 31, 1940

NEGROES' PART IN NATIONAL DEFENSE

(Columbus Enquirer)

During these days of national anxiety when the chief interest of the entire country is centered upon the conscription lottery it does not seem inappropriate to refer to the loyalty and patriotism of the American Negro.

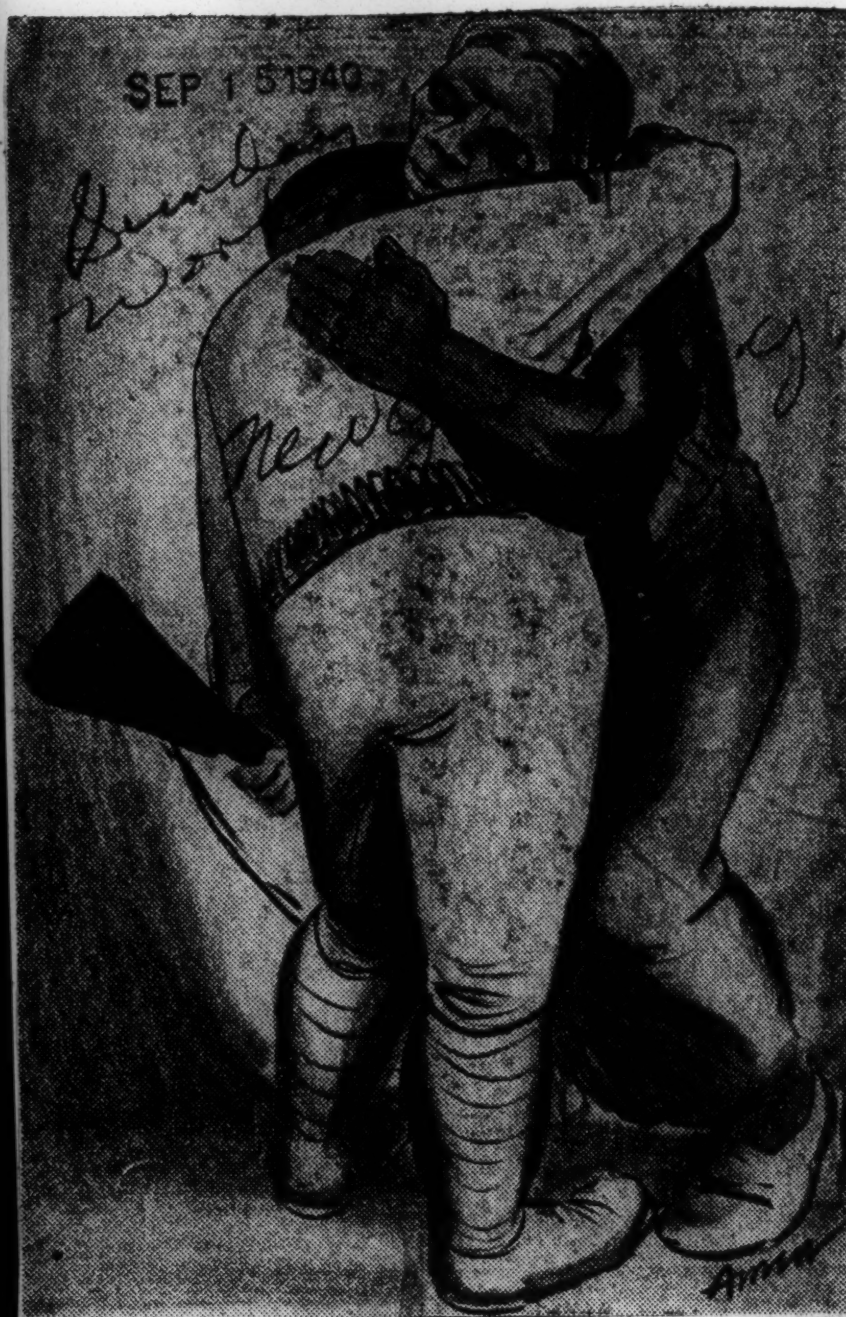
Negroes have played important parts in our wars and in times of national stress they have always extended their full cooperation. A Negro was the first American to fall in the Boston Massacre of March 5, 1770, and two Negroes won distinction at the Battle of Bunker Hill, one of them having been credited with the death of the British commander. Negro troops fought with

heroism in the Battle of Long Island, and records of the Revolution show that in 1771 when Colonel Greene was attacked at Point Bridge, Negro troops defended him bravely, sacrificing themselves to the last man.

The Negroes eligible to register in the peace-time con-

scription of 1940 presented themselves promptly and carried out the orders of the government.

The American Negro is patriotic to the core. He loves his country and can be counted on to extend his full and unqualified support to the Stars and Stripes in time of national peril.



A NEGRO MOTHER AND SON

By AMES

Negro

They Seek Democracy Here For Children

By Margaret Taylor Goss

We clustered around the old man and listened horror-stricken to the tales he told. He had fought in two wars and had come through both of them alive, miraculously alive but pitifully scarred. He was a marked man now, a man of war minus legs, minus arms and with a mind that came and went. The tales he told in his recesses of sanity made me sit and wonder.

I wondered about war. Why are wars? Who makes them? Why are they fought? Who profits from them? What about black men in wars? What is gained? I queried. I questioned. I found that from Marathon to Verdun, black women have given up their men-folk to the grim and ghastly god of war.

Black men have fought to the last breath for good causes, for bad causes, and for indifferent ones. Out of all of these battles none have been more richly benefited than the god of war. Who is the god of war? The god of war is greed. Money-hungry mad men make the wars. Always the poor people are against the wars. Women forced to fight in the wars. Women of all times with eyes made red with weeping, mourn the loss of their men.

This war business has been going on for a long time. We are supposed to be civilized. Civilized peoples by now should be able to settle their problems by peaceful arbitration. Civilized nations should.

Yes, but then there are and have been those great imperialistic communications, raw materials, and spheres of influence. In their struggle, they cannot solve their problems by peaceful arbitration but must resort to wars of conquest as a means of deciding who must rule.

These wars which our men have fought in, have died in, let us look closely at them. Let us "chalk up" on the wall the victories that our boys have won. Let us see the part our men have played. Let us unveil the real victors of wars.

Have Built Country

Now, you may not be able to find mention of it in the history books nor among America's oldest historical documents because many of our historians have found it convenient to omit or inconvenient to include such data but it is pretty certain that since our forefathers landed on these shores in 1619 that many millions of black sons, fathers, husbands, and sweethearts have shed their blood in some form or other to build this country.

Glancing back through the pages of some histories, we find that in 1689 England and France were fighting over a question which was of no importance to the American colonists.

But just because the two mother countries were at war, the settlers had to take up arms. This war was called King William's war after William III, king of England and lasted eight years.

Four years later, England and France were at it again. Again this had nothing to do with the colonists but again they took up arms against each other. The English ruler at this time was Queen Anne. Her "pet massacre" lasted 13 years.

Negro sons were undoubtedly among those "minute men" who fought the war for independence against British oppression.

At Bunker Hill blood of our men flowed freely with their white brothers who were fighting to maintain American rights, to be allowed to govern themselves, to vote, and to spend their own taxes.

Popular Government

But even after the Declaration of Independence was signed and Richard Henry Lee of Virginia introduced this resolution, "That these united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states," the Negro sons of Negro mothers were immediately forgotten and shoved back into the

harrowing yoke of chattel slavery. Shortly after the French people in their revolution declared for a popular government, they went to war with England. Various factions in America sympathized with chosen sides. A number of men, called "war hawks" in the Congress of 1811 demanded immediate war on England. In fact, they made such a fuss and excited the people so that the President at that time even though opposed to war himself, seeing that his party was in favor of it, declared war on Great Britain on June 8, 1812.

Many states were against the war, because it wrecked their commerce and forced them to furnish money and men for a war of which they did not approve. Some of the citizens felt the money could be used to build the country and the men—every country needs the best of her men, black or white. After a sacrifice of men on land and sea two years later a treaty was signed both countries being heartily sick of the war and glad to have peace.

Shortly after Texas was admitted to the union the United States and Mexico had a dispute over a boundary. War was declared. More lives were lost. The Mexicans, being defeated on all sides, were forced to make a treaty of peace which gave the United States the territory which has since become the states of California, Nevada, Utah, a part of Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming and all territory north and east of the Rio Grande to the borders of the United States.

Enormous Acquisition

This was an enormous acquisition but many black and white mothers spent months weeping for the sons who did not come home.

Of course black men fought in the Civil War, the war between the states. Brothers must have killed brothers; fathers must have been forced to slay their own sons. Lincoln hoped for a peaceful solution to the problem.

John Brown, fearless fighter for the abolition of slavery, hoped too for a peaceful solution, but he knew even as he went to the scaffold that there could be no peaceful solution

to this conflict. He knew that war became a necessity of the land under their feet. The situation became tense when the Lusitania, a British merchant ship bearing munitions and among the crew some American citizens who had been previously warned not to travel on it, was sunk. Shortly afterwards a state of war was declared between the United States and Germany.

Again the black sons came to the fore—this time fighting for a myth-

Sons Have

Fought Bravely

In All Our Wars

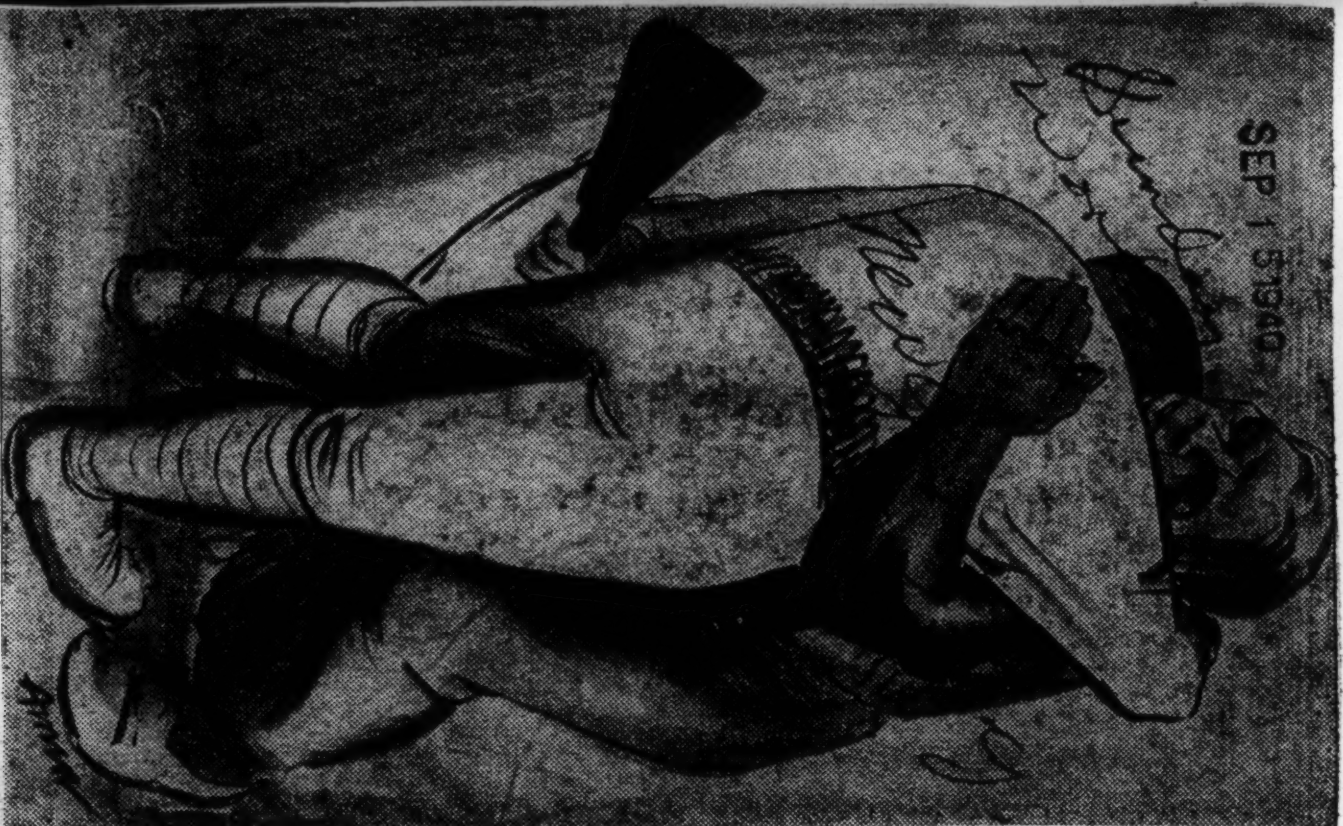
war, the munition makers of that day built up a huge trade with

SEP 1 5 1940

Great Powers

In August, 1914, the great powers of Europe were again at war. As

SEP 1 5 1940



A NEGRO MOTHER AND SON

By AMEN

Negro

**They Seek
Democracy Here
For Children**

By Margaret Taylor Goss

We clustered around the old man and listened horror-stricken to the tales he told. He had fought in two wars and had come through both of them alive, miraculously alive but pitifully scarred. He was a marked man now, a man of war minus legs, minus arms and with a mind that came and went. The tales he told in his recesses of sanity made me sit and wonder.

I wondered about war. Why are wars? Who makes them? Why are they fought? Who profits from countries? What about black men in wars? What is gained? I queried. I questioned. I found that from Marathon to Verdun, black women have given up their menfolk to the grim and ghastly god of war.

Black men have fought to the death for good causes, for bad causes, and for indifferent ones. Out each other. The English ruler at the time was Queen Anne. Her been more ribbly been seen than the god of war is the god of war? The god of war is greed, among money-hungry mad men make the wars. Always the poor people are forced to fight in the wars. Women of all times with eyes made red with weeping, mourn the loss of their men.

This war business has been going on for a long time. We are supposed to be civilized. Civilized people by now should be able to settle their problems by peaceful arbitration. Civilized nations should.

Yes, but then there are and have been those great imperialistic communications, raw materials, and spheres of influence. In their struggle, they cannot solve their problems by peaceful arbitration but must resort to wars of con-quest as a means of deciding who must rule.

These wars which our men have fought in, have died in, let us look closely at them. Let us "chuck up" on the wall the victories that our boys have won. Let us see the part our men have played. Let us unveil the real victors of wars.

Have Built Country

Now, you may not be able to find mention of it in the history books for among America's oldest historical documents because many of our historians have found it convenient to omit or inconvenient to include such data but it is pretty certain that since our forefathers landed on these shores in 1619 that many millions of black sons, fathers, husbands, and sweethearts have shed their blood in some form or other to build this country.

Glancing back through the pages of some histories, we find that in 1689 England and France, were fighting over a question which was of no importance to the American colonists.

But just because the two mother countries were at war, the settlers had to take up arms. This war was called King William's war after William III, King of England and lasted eight years.

Four years later, England and France were at it again. Again this time had nothing to do with the colonists but again they took up arms against each other. The English ruler at the time was Queen Anne. Her been more ribbly been seen than the god of war is the god of war? The god of war is greed, among money-hungry mad men make the wars. Always the poor people are forced to fight in the wars. Women of all times with eyes made red with weeping, mourn the loss of their men.

At Bunker Hill blood of our men flowed freely while their white brothers who were fighting to maintain American rights, to vote, and to spend their own taxes.

But even after the Declaration of Independence was signed and to the problem.

John Brown, fearless fighter for the abolition of slavery, hoped too for a peaceful solution, but he knew even as he went to the scaffold that there could be no peaceful solution to this conflict. He knew that war was imminent. Many leaders on both sides thought that war would be prevented but Fort Sumter was fired upon and the struggle began. Many families were divided in their sympathies and some had soldiers in both armies.

The situation became tense when the Lusitania, a British merchant ship bearing munitions and among the crew some American citizens who had been previously warned not to travel on it, was sunk. Shortly afterwards a state of war was declared between the United States and Germany.

Again the black sons came to the fore—this time fighting for a myth-

Sons Have Fought Bravely In All Our Wars

war, the munition makers of that day built up a huge trade with

Shorty after Texas was admitted to the union the United States and Mexico had a dispute over a boundary. War was declared. More lives were lost. The Mexicans, being defeated on all sides, were forced to make a treaty of peace which gave the United States the territory which has since become the states of California, Nevada, Utah, a part of Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming and all territory north and east of the Rio Grande to the borders of the United States.

Enormous Acquisition

This was an enormous acquisition but many black and white mothers spent months weeping for the sons who did not come home. Of course black men fought in the Civil War, the war between the states. Brothers must have been forced to slay their own sons. Lin-

coln hoped for a peaceful solution to the problem. John Brown, fearless fighter for the abolition of slavery, hoped too for a peaceful solution, but he knew even as he went to the scaffold that there could be no peaceful solution to this conflict. He knew that war was imminent. Many leaders on both sides thought that war would be prevented but Fort Sumter was fired upon and the struggle began. Many families were divided in their sympathies and some had soldiers in both armies.

Black men fought on the side of the Union army for their liberation only to find that their hard-won freedom was short-lived. A new form of slavery began. Our people

local DEMOCRACY which promised our money and our cultural heritage by making DEMOCRACY work for the Negro masses economic and social equality. Black sons bled for in our own country. A Negro mother would not hesitate one second in sacrificing her sons for such a cause. Wives would gladly give up their husbands and sweethearts their lovers. We have a DEMOCRACY right here, only it isn't functioning quite properly.

Facing New Destruction SEP 15 1940

Black mothers wept for sons who gave their young lives in vain. Black soldiers returning to reap the fruits of a democracy for which they had fought were greeted with lynching and terrorism.

Black mothers, receiving gold stars in return for the lives of their sons, in an attempt to pay tribute to their war dead were written in the face by that same democracy for which their sons died by being forced to sail on a cattle boat. Enforcement of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution was completely forgotten and is even now.

So today, we find ourselves face to face with another war. Again it is not our war, but various forces just as in the past for their own selfish reasons are trying to push us into it. Why should a Negro mother of today sacrifice her sons to the war god? Why should the Negro mother be sympathetic to the other side? This is not our war.

Britain and France for hundreds of years have cruelly exploited and kept in oppression their millions of black subjects in Africa and other colonies. If Britain and France were fighting to preserve DEMOCRACY, we would be better convinced if they had started in their own back yards.

Germany's attitude toward darker races is no better. Adolph Hitler is vicious in his race superiority theories against the Negro and the Jew. In his book, Mein Kampf, he compares the Negro to the ape. This is definitely not our war. This is not a peoples' war.

The British and French imperialists are fighting the German imperialists. The people pay the price. Innocent men die while the profit-hungry war makers grow richer. Many people here just as in the World War are anxious to get us into this war. They see a chance to reap a fine harvest, to build up fortunes for the future.

Build Democracy At Home SEP 15 1940

Instead of wasting our men and our money on imperialist war mongers who cry "For Democracy," why shouldn't we utilize our men,

If all of the black men and women would mass themselves in a solid rank, to abolish the poll tax in the south; to end lynching and peonage; to do away with discrimination and segregation, to enforce the Constitution as it is written—if all black men and women would mass themselves in solid opposition to war, we would see America really being America to BLACK AMERICANS. Our democracy would cease to be just a smoke screen behind which is hidden the terror of dictatorship. Real democracy would live. Fighting for this ideal black men would be laying a firm foundation for the future of this country, lifting ourselves up and off of the lowest rung of the economic ladder and insuring that one-third of the nation which is ill-housed, ill-clothed and ill-fed a new birth.

—Reprinted in part from the "Chicago Defender."

Separate Units Will be Maintained to Keep Morale High, He Says

Washington Tribune
Washington, D.C.
OCT 12 1940

Unwavering and undivided approval was given the system of Army segregation and maintenance of the so-called "white man's status quo" by President Roosevelt Wednesday, through Mr. Roosevelt's White House secretary, Stephen T. Early.

The statement of approval of the jim crow conditions surrounding the nation's defense setup grew out of a recent conference of Mr. Roosevelt, Walter White, secretary of the NAACP; A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; T. Arnold Hill, of the NYA; Col. Frank Knox, secretary of the Navy; and Robert P. Patterson, assistant secretary of War.

"The policy of the War Department," the statement ran, "is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proven satisfactory over a long period of years, and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense."

No Negro Reserves

"For similar reasons, the department does not contemplate assigning colored reserve officers other than those of the medical corps and chaplains to existing Negro combat units of the regular Army."

The White House statement cited it is the policy of the War Department that services of Negroes will be utilized "on a fair and equitable basis."

This Presidential sanction of racial discrimination came as a bombshell to countless patriots who have been laboring under the delusion they are being banded together in a national defense setup in order to help preserve "democracy and the American way of life."

The President outlined other principles of his jim crow policy. These included:

1. "The strength of the Negro personnel of the Army will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country."

2. "Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as noncombatant."

3. "Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units, officered by col-

ored personnel.

4. "When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions."

5. "Negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics, and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained."

6. "At arsenals and Army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education, and experience."

Saving the WORLD For DEMOCRACY

*Pittsburgh
Courier*

By CHARLES H. HOUSTON
Former First Lieutenant, 368th U.S. Infantry Regiment
Distinguished Lawyer and Educator

ELEVENTH INSTALLMENT

(All Rights Reserved)

SEP 28 1940

*Pittsburgh
Pa.*

IT MUST have been 10:30 or 11:00 p. m. when the white officer led the white soldiers down to lynch the four of us. The French were all locked in their houses. They got off the streets as early as possible on the nights when American soldiers were in town. The plaza was deserted.

The officer who led the mob began to yelp about "niggers" forgetting themselves just because they had a uniform on, and it was time to put a few in their places, otherwise the United States would not be a safe place to live in after they get back. The enlisted men were milling around us. None offered us any violence, possibly because it is a most serious offense in the Army for an enlisted man to strike an officer, and these men were not sure they could get away with it.

We countered with the thrust that we had done as much for America as anybody and more than most of them. The quarrel was on. I was not particularly frightened but it was a messy situation and I did not see any solution. About that time we heard the sound of men marching, and a French guard squad with rifles approached from the other side of the square. The squad was heading directly for the crowd. Everybody more or less suspended. I said to myself here is the answer. But the French marched through the middle of the crowd and kept right on about its own business. I did not expect anything of the Americans but I remember I had a feeling of being deserted by friends and left all on my own when the French marched by oblivious to what was going on.

The crowd surged in again, and the officer began yelping that no Negro troops were any good, that the 10th Cavalry had let the Mexicans run them away at Carrizal. Collins tried to cut the argument short and listed men back to their trucks and they vanished. He then delivered all we officers a lecture or thing to do with enlisted men, but disgracing the uniform by a public street brawl and ordered us to our hotels. The next day two of us went to his office to explain the situation. We found he knew all about it. He said he had already caused the girls to be run out of town. He complimented us for having kept our heads, but said that we had to remember we would get the worst of any argument. If we did not get it in the fight itself, we would get it in the court martial which would follow. He said girls like that were not worth it, and we would just have to remember the

NO ACTION TAKEN AGAINST ANYBODY

No formal action was taken against anybody on account of that Saturday night episode. But the camp command was concerned. A few days later one of the Y. M. C. A. secretaries who had heard us singing around the officers' tent suggested that since we had nothing but time and no duty to do, we put on a talent show for the white officers by way of a good will gesture. We agreed and after some practice turned out a fair amateur performance. We produced a double quartet, a guitar-mandolin combination, piano solo work, and some rapid cartoon-drawing. It approximated a college glee club performance. There was no minstrel stuff.

TROUBLE FLARES AGAIN OVER OFFICERS' TRUCK

The brigadier general and his staff and most of the white officers attended. The Y. M. C. A. secretary made his speech. The general responded. The evening was a success. For the next two weeks in town everyone got along fine. Then trouble flared again.

The camp ran an officers' truck on Sunday nights which left town a couple of hours after the regular train for the camp. This gave the officers some extra time after the enlisted men had left. Usually our fellows took the train back, but this Sunday night two of our fellows missed the train and tried to take the officers' truck back. The white officers refused to let them on, claiming the truck was full. When they tried to force their way

the white officers pushed them off EVERYBODY PLACED UNDER ARREST

The next day the brigadier general put all of us under arrest. About half of us had not been out of camp that weekend, but we were put under arrest too. The brigadier general detailed Captain Thirkield, son of a former president of Howard university, to take charge over us to try to keep us busy. Captain Thirkield meant well, but he had an almost impossible task.

He tried holding classes, but the fellows resented that because they knew the classes meant nothing. The war was over, and we were simply waiting to go home. When the classes did not go, Captain Thirkield tried taking the men on disciplinary marches. This produced a lot of muttering because the fellows resented the fact that

as a group of officers they were being marched around the camp like a lot of prisoners. Captain Thirkield chose the least conspicuous parts of the camp to do his marching, but the fellows resented the fundamental idea of placing everybody under arrest for what no more than two could possibly have been guilty of.

NOWHERE TO GO, NOTHING TO DO

When we were not under formation for Captain Thirkield we had the freedom of the camp, but there was nowhere to go in camp and almost nothing to do. None of us could go to town unless Captain Thirkield went along. Then we had to submit our requests for going in

writing. The requests had to be approved. Then Captain Thirkield would take us to town in a camp automobile, accompany us to the places and about the business approved, and take us right back. Only one of us could go at a time and never on the week-end.

I was the mess officer for our group and as such always had the excuse of needing green vegetables which could not be bought in camp. But I was restricted to two trips a week, and even then had to submit to Captain Thirkield an itemized list of the vegetables wanted. If there was any way to get them without going to town, I did not get there.

HE DOES SHOPPING FOR OFFICERS

I more or less became the designate agent of all our officers who wanted anything from town. They had to write out their lists and under Captain Thirkield's eye I would do their shopping for them. I had one advantage over the Captain: I spoke more French than he did. When the shopkeepers would ask me in French why our officers were not in town and how things were going in camp, my remarks were extensive and not complimentary.

Negro Artillery in World War

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:
One reading Hanson W. Baldwin's dispatch from Fort Sill, Okla., in THE TIMES this morning might gather the impression that the 349th Field Artillery was the only Negro artillery in the World War. His dispatch should have read that the 349th was one of the first three Negro regiments. With the 350th and 351st Regiments it constituted the 167th Field Artillery Brigade. This brigade, part of the Ninety-second Division, finished the war on the Moselle River just south of Metz under command of Brig. Gen. John H. Sherburne. Many officers and men of the 167th Field Artillery Brigade live in New York.
HARRY KING TOOTLE.
New York, Nov. 20. 1940.

ENLISTED MEN ORDERED BACK TO TRUCKS

The row was getting hotter when a single figure pushed through the crowd and shouted "Attention!" It was the captain of the American military police. He ordered the en-

Black H America

Only Race Holder
Of Congressional

Medal Buried

DEC 7 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)

—Funeral services were held here Wednesday for Sergt. George S. Wanton, only Negro holder of the Congressional medal. Sgt. Wanton died in the Walter Reed Hospital after an illness of about two months. Seventy-four years old, Sergt. Wanton had been retired from active service in 1925.

Sergt. Wanton's award came as the result of action while a member of the 10th Cavalry in 1898 in the Spanish American War. When his troop attempted a landing on the east coast of Cuba to join the forces of Gen. Gomez, the troop was ambushed by Spanish forces as it approached the shore in small boats, and all but 16 of the Americans, who were taken prisoners, were able to make their way back to their ship.

VOLUNTEERS

A call was given for volunteers to rescue the captives and Wanton with four men under him was given the task. Putting ashore in his launch, the detail surprised and shot the sentries guarding the prisoners, freed them and all returned to safety despite the intense fire of a Spanish detachment which learned of the escape.

Twice wounded, he was honorably discharged, but later re-enlisted, remaining in the army until his retirement.

SURVIVORS

Born in Paterson, he is survived by his widow, Mrs. Helen Wanton; two daughters, Mrs. Vivian Dixon of Washington and Mrs. Elizabeth McCleary of Port Jervis, N. Y. and one son, George H., who lives in Columbia, S. C.

Interment with full military honors was in Arlington cemetery.

Kansas City Industry Has Big Contract But Will Not Hire Negroes

OCT 11 1940

President of Standard Steel Works Says He
Has No Intention of Changing Policy
Despite No-Discrimination Law

In a telephone conversation with the Urban League, Mason Thompson, president of the Standard Steel Works of North Kansas City, said that his company never had employed Negro skilled labor and had no intention of changing its policy.

Mr. Thompson's company has received a contract of \$1,182,005 for the manufacture of trailers which will be use as field artillery in the army. The size of the contract has made it necessary for the Standard Steel Works to expand its plant and to employ many new workers.

Several Negroes were in the line which formed at the factory last week when workers were being hired, but all were told that "there is nothing here for Negroes." This was done in spite of a provision in the labor policy of the National Defense Advisory Commission which says that no workers shall be discriminated against because of age, sex, color or race.

When this provision was called to the attention of Mr. Thompson, he said that he still had no intention of changing the policy of his company.

The Urban League sent two letters to Mr. Thompson in regard to this matter, and when no answer was received Thomas A. Webster, Urban League secretary, talked to Mr. Thompson by telephone. The letters had asked for a conference with Mr. Thompson.

The Standard Steels president told Mr. Webster that he could bring a committee out for a conference if he wanted to, but that his policy would remain intact.

The Urban League wrote J. C. Nichols, a member of the Advisory

Commission to the Council of National Defense, in regard to the policy of discrimination at Standard Steels and received the following reply:

OCT 11 1940

Dear Mr. Webster:

I have your letter and also read a copy of your letter written to Mr. Mason Thompson, president of Standard Steel Works.

In your letter to me you state that contracts for manufacturing trailers come in my field. On his point you are mistaken, inasmuch as my department is Miscellaneous Equipment, which takes in only clothing, tentage, boots and shoes, cooking equipment, etc., but does not include automotive equipment.

If there was anything that I could suggest to you to do I assure you I would be very glad to make the suggestion, but frankly, outside of what I have done I know nothing else you or I could do.

Yours very truly,
J. C. NICHOLS,
Director, Miscellaneous
Equipment Division,
Room 2746, Munitions
Building.

Training Is Opened To Negroes

OCT 1 8 1940

By LAWRENCE F. LAMAR
LOS ANGELES, Calif.—(ANP)—The lid having been successfully blown off the program of secrecy and of race, color and religious rampant in the employment program of many of the National Defense program industries here on the coast, this week witnessed varying promises being made by industry leaders to alter plans and give Americans of color their just due in the matter of employment.

The Eastside Chamber of Commerce, which led the investigations that eventually uncovered "the plot", was informed last week by officials of the local and state National Youth Administration heads, that the industries complained of had given them the assurance that they would accept youth of color who were properly trained.

VIEWED AS VICTORY

This matter coming to the attention of Chamber heads was viewed as a "victory". The group had waged an unrelenting war against any sort of prejudicial practice against any American workman. In the course of their investigation they had pointed out to the public the relationship of the practice of race, color and religious prejudice against American workmen, and the program being waged by Nazis and Fascist abroad.

The chamber group several weeks ago exposed a "contract" existing between the State Relief Administration and the NYA, by which it was agreed that the NYA would not certify any but white youth, of the second generation to aircraft mechanical training schools.

At the time the NYA officials stated they would ask the SRA for a "revision" of the contract because of the discriminatory clause. The chamber group also learned that back of that contract, was another asking that "no Jews, Mexicans, Portugese or Negro youth be benefited in the training schools."

On Friday, Oct. 4th, the committee was informed by telephonic

message from Robert Burns, state administrator of the National Youth Administration, that four projects were in operation which that body was taking steps to break down any evidence of prejudice against "Negroes or any other groups". Burns pointed out that there was a residence center at Santa Barbara, California which was taking Negro women. Burns pointed out that they were allocating selective young men to the aviation construction project at Bakersfield, where they had already trained two classes of Those graduates he said, had been given jobs in Douglas, Lockheed and Consolidated Aviation cooperations. A new class is being started and Negro youths will be included.

The residence center at Sherman Institute at Riverside, is also including Negro youths, who will live on the campus under the 24-hour guidance of the NYA and received government pay.

Salient point of interest in Mr. Burns conversation, however, was the information that they dedicated Sunday, October 13 a new dormitory on the campus of the California Institute of Technology, where 100 youths out of 300 applicants would be selected to live there with the privilege of testing themselves in the shops and equipment to determine the lines they are best suited to follow. Out of seven Negro applicant Burns pointed out, 3 or 4 would be selected for the Cal.-Tech project.

It is believed most of the objection to Negro youths enrolling as trainees in the aircraft vocational schools, came from the schools themselves. However, Burns, still smarting under the bitter effects of the prejudicial contract with SRA, informed the chamber group that as soon as the \$20,000 fund they received from the state relief administration is depleted, that they would not ask for more. He stated, that the "NYA is going to stop its share in that sort of thing. In the future the NYA will do it in its own way and with its own money."

OCT 1 6 1940
Lieut. White, informed Leon M. Giles, president of the Eastside Chamber of Commerce, that his committee had evidence, by the way of a communication from Major Reuben H. Fleet, president of the Consolidated Aircraft Cor-

poration at San Diego, California, that two Negro youth had already been put to work in his plant.

Mobile, Ala., Register

October 20, 1940

Defense Employment Discussion Is Slated

Problems affecting colored people who seek vocational training in connection with the national defense program, and public relief, will be discussed at an open forum meeting of the Mobile branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People this afternoon at 4 o'clock. The meeting will be held at the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church. Officials of the unit also announced that affiliation with the Committee To Defend America By Aid To The Allies has been effected, which shall result in an acceleration of efforts to aid Britain and to expand the avenues of employment in industry and the military service in

AGREE TO HIRE RACE WORKERS IF QUALIFIED

West Coast Business Unit
Wins Campaign Against
Industrial Jim Crow

OCT 26 1940
LOS ANGELES.—The lid having been blown off race and religious prejudice rampant in the employment program of many of the national defense industries here on the coast, varying promises were made this week by industrial leaders to alter plans and give Americans of color their just share of jobs.

The Eastside Chamber of Commerce, which led the investigations that eventually uncovered 'the plot,' was informed last week by officials of the local and state National Youth Administration heads that the industries complained by the chamber's investigating body, had given them the assurance that they would accept youths of color who were properly trained.

This matter coming to the attention of chamber heads was viewed as a 'victory.' The group had waged an unrelenting war against any sort of prejudicial practice against any American workman. In the course of their investigation they had pointed out to the public the relationship of the practice of race, and religious prejudice against American workmen, and the program being waged by Nazis and Fascist abroad.

The chamber group several weeks ago exposed a 'contract' existing between the State Relief Administration and the NYA, by which it was agreed that the NYA would not certify any but white youth, of the second generation to aircraft mechanical training schools.

At the time the NYA officials stated they would ask the SRA for a 'recission' of the contract because of the discriminatory clause. The chamber group also learned, that back of that contract, was another asking that "no Jews, Mexicans, Portugese or Negro youths be benefitted in the training schools.

Lieut. Journe W. White, chairman of the Committee on Labor and Industry of the Eastside Chamber of

Commerce, stated that the entry of all American youths, irrespective of race, color or creed into the aircraft mechanical training schools, would prove the assurance of most of them being hired in those industries without 'fear of favor.'

White and his committee members including Robert G. LaMar, field secretary and LeRoy R. Ingram, secretary-manager of the chamber body, have kept in close touch with both leaders of industry and the educational heads of the state and federal governments.

Interracial Group Urges Negroes In Defense Program

OCT 19 1940
ATLANTA.—(AP)—Affirming its faith "in Christian democracy as the highest expression of life and freedom" the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in annual session here last week, adopted resolutions urging that the Negroes of America be given fair representation in all phases of the national defense program. This, according to the resolutions, would involve inclusion in the various defense industries, in "all the armed forces of the nation," and on state and local defense boards, following "the excellent example already set by the President of the United States."

It was also recommended that, in areas where there are many Negroes, representatives of the group be named to state and local draft boards. "Negroes are as loyal as any other group in our land," the commission declared, "and we believe that they should be given every opportunity to defend and support our democratic ideals."

'We Don't Hire Negroes' Firm Tells Delegation

R. Hoe & Co., Holding
Defense Contracts,
Flaunts Jim-Crow
DEC 5 1940

Met by the blunt declaration that the company has never hired Negro workers, a job-seeking delegation headed by two local leaders of the National Negro Congress yesterday pointed to R. Hoe and Co., Inc., recipient of a \$732,000 defense contract, as "but one striking example of the flagrant discrimination which is being carried on against the Negro people in connection with the national defense program."

The delegation of 15, led by William H. Gauden, secretary of the State Continuations Committee of the New York Negro Congress, and Louis E. Burnham, its youth secretary, called yesterday upon personnel manager Hopkins in the course of the Congress' current drive for jobs.

In reply to a direct question, Hopkins said that during his 12 years association with R. Hoe and Co. the firm had hired no Negro worker, and added that to his knowledge the company has never hired a Negro.

PLANT NEAR HARLEM

Commenting on the location of the firm at 910 E. 138th St., only a stone's throw from Harlem, Gauden as spokesman for the delegation declared that the absence of a Negro on a payroll of more than 600 workers indicated a fixed policy of discrimination.

"No policy exists," Hopkins replied. He added that at the company's foundry and other works in Donellen, N. J., Negroes are employed. But when asked how many, he replied vaguely, "about 20."

A statement issued by the delegation following the interview said that "since R. Hoe and Co. has received a contract from the Federal government, it is under moral obligation to practice a democratic employment policy; such a policy would provide against discrimination of Negroes."

Gauden, in commenting on the results of the interview, charged that "if the defense program is to be worth the paper it is written on, there must be a guarantee that every American will be given the same opportunity to work in firms handling national defense contracts regardless of race, creed or color."

The delegation's statement concluded with the pledge that "the National Negro Congress is out to stop the vicious policy of a job blackout against the Negro people."

"Our request is for the right to work and to live without being discriminated against by the men who talk about 'giving all in the defense of democracy.'"

"The National Negro Congress is out to get jobs for the Negro people today. This is just the beginning of our fight for jobs and a better life for the Negro people."

R. Hoe and Co. manufactures reboil systems for anti-aircraft guns, as well as printing machinery parts.

Win Right To Work After Protest Aired

To Start On
Orcutt Homes
In Few Days

DEC 7 1940
Staff Correspondence

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—Ninety Negro bricklayers and 175 semi-skilled and non-skilled workers are now employed on the Marshall Courts defense housing project for white shipyard workers, the Journal and Guide was informed last Friday by the superintendent of works.

When construction started several weeks ago, Negro bricklayers complained that they were being discriminated against when applicants were told the skilled jobs were for union men only. In an effort to

qualify for employment, they expressed a desire to comply with the terms and were assessed a union fee of \$100, almost three times that paid by white bricklayers, they asserted.

PROTESTS FRUITFUL

A committee later made representation to the Housing Authority, E. P. Hornlein, manager of the Virginia State Employment Office, and the United States Housing Administration in Washington.

Work on the Orcutt Homes project for Negro shipyard workers to be constructed on the opposite side of Marshall Courts near the Huntington High School, is to get under way in a week or ten days.

Work on the Harbor Homes units, a slum-clearance program, is progressing as fast as the weather will permit. Some of the units will not be ready for occupancy before February due to the delay caused by previous bad weather. A large number of Negroes in the semi-skilled and non-skilled brackets are also employed here.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 INDUSTRIAL WORK

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
September 25, 1940

Plane Industry Jobs For Negroes Requested

Consideration for Negroes in regard to jobs in the aviation industry and places for them on the Davidson County selective service draft boards is sought in two letters from officers of the Nashville Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, released today to the press.

Both letters were signed by S. L. McDowell, president of the Nashville branch, and M. W. Day, chairman of the executive committee.

One was addressed to Victor Emanuel, chairman of the board of directors of the Aviation and Transportation Corporation, and a copy sent to Richard W. Millar, president of the Vultee Aircraft Corporation, and the other was addressed to Gov. Prentice Cooper, and a copy of it was sent to Mayor Thomas L. Cummings.

Accuse Aircraft Makers Of Job Discrimination, Run-Around On Coast

NEW YORK—Something of the manner in which billion-dollar industrial plants, particularly aircraft manufacturers, on the west coast have succeeded with the aid of local boards of education in keeping Negro job applicants out of defense industry, was revealed here today by Walter White, executive secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. White returned this week from a month's speaking tour in connection with the association's campaign to break down discrimination against the Negro in the national defense program, including the army and navy. He addressed 62 meetings, twenty of them sponsored by NAACP branches in sixteen cities from Boston to San Francisco.

"I found at San Diego for example," he said, "that the school board has issued an order barring Negro children from taking vocational courses unless they can produce letters from employers like the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation insuring them jobs. And yet, a Mr. Gott, manager of this huge aircraft corporation which is making planes for the national defense program, told members of a delegation from our San Diego branch

national defense program, including the Army, Navy, Air Corps and particularly in the industrial phases of that program."

"On the negative side," the NAACP secretary said, "I found that in some cities there was a tendency on the part of some of our people, who have lived in certain cities all their lives or who have come to the West Coast

from the South, to believe that because the more obvious forms of discrimination do not exist in their locality, they face no problem.

"This tendency, however, is being broken down and I predict that it will be changed even more by the fact that a great many southern white people from Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas have migrated to the west coast, particularly into Southern California. Some of these people, unfortunately, are bringing their traditional prejudices and are enthusiastically spreading them."

—A Colored Judge

that he was unable to employ Negroes because they were untrained.

Vicious Circle Seen

"Thoughtful white and colored people on the coast are now seeing the vicious circle — Negroes cannot get jobs because they are not trained and they cannot get training because no jobs are guaranteed them.

"Particularly acute is the situation in the Boeing aircraft plant at Seattle, Washington, where it was recently revealed that a large number of Nazi Bundists are not only employed but occupy strategic positions in the plant, while Negroes, whatever their qualifications, are denied jobs in the plant because of the attitude of the plant management. These facts are slowly being driven home to Negroes all over the country, who are beginning to realize that they have a common interest in this fight.

"White college students", he said, "are becoming more and more aware of the problems now faced by the Negro in national defense and they have a healthy desire to do something about it.

"At the University of California," he continued, "I found that one of the liveliest issues on the campus is the students' resentment against discrimination which faces the Negro in the

Race Folk Daily World Ask Fair Atlanta, Ga. Chance

Would Aid Employment Among Group

DEC 9 1940

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— While various organizations throughout the country are asking that Negro workers be given a fair chance in the national defense program as far as manufacturing and armaments are concerned, Negro artisans, skilled and unskilled workers are listening eagerly to hear whether or not they will have any part in the huge \$150,000,000 national defense housing program.

As the matter now stands the government has appropriated this vast sum for the construction of homes for defense workers, multiple and single dwellings to care for those who will be employed in the vast manufacturing program getting under way. Where there is inadequate housing the government plans to step in and take over the situation.

This means that there will or should be adequate housing available close to the plants where defense workers will be employed.

MAY AID EMPLOYMENT

And in some instances, if the plans are pushed, it will enable Negroes to obtain employment, should the government be far sighted enough to see that Negroes are included in the housing projects both as workers on the buildings and as residents in the completed projects.

Pointing with no little pride to the successful infiltration of Negro workers on the U. S. Housing projects, these same workers who hope for employment in the new pro-

gram show that many workers were employed on these projects before their completion and with little or no labor friction.

Skilled workers were employed, electricians, plumbers, plasterers, brick layers, etc., right on through the construction of the houses through classes inserted in contracts awarded builders.

In some instances, the percentage of Negroes thus employed was greater than the percentage prescribed in the contracts and the workers did highly satisfactory work.

WANT EQUITABLE SHARE

With this as a precedent, the workers hope for an equitable share in the vast program which would assure them a continuance of employment since the Government is doing more building than private contractors.

The assurance that Negroes will be employed on these new projects would do much to restore their confidence in the administration for they point out that inasmuch as it would prevent employers from saying they would engage Negroes except for the fact that there were no accommodations for them.

In a recent magazine article, John M. Carmody, federal works administrator, wrote:

"As this is written, congress has enacted legislation and provided the funds for a special housing program to meet urgent needs arising from

(Continued from Page 1)
the great preparedness drive now in full swing. This is being written before the ink from the President's pen is scarcely dry on the acts creating these undertakings. Quite naturally some details remain to be worked out.

TO BE COMPLETED IN MAY

Discussing the program for construction of the defense housing as far as the army is concerned, Mr. Carmody said the program is scheduled for completion by May of next year.

Part of the requirements to be met will include the answering of a questionnaire by the contractor's seeking work. Included in the present load, other government contracts currently held, organization, financial assets, experience in the field of low cost housing.

Plan is being studied for the possible mass purchase of fixtures and standard facilities, such as

bathtubs, toilet bowls, kitchen cabinets, ranges refrigerators and heating units. If feasible, these facilities will be sought in a single standard size for all of the contemplated projects.

Not only will workers in defense plants be housed in these new projects, but in this military plan for the army, enlisted personnel, non-commissioned officers and so forth will be housed in the army buildings. Rentals for the houses thus occupied will be fixed by housing departments. Rentals for civilian defense workers will be fixed after taking into consideration all factors, quality of housing supplied, existing rent levels in the community the family earning capacity and so on.

Negro workers are eagerly waiting further developments in this gigantic housing program and hope for the best as they say they got under the U. S. Housing administration, feeling that the same principles may be applied in the defense building program.

Skilled Men, Register!

DEC 12 1940

Attention has been called to the fact that very few colored skilled workers are registered for jobs with the State Unemployment offices throughout Pennsylvania.

The government has asked the defense industries to employ new workers from the unemployed rolls as soon as possible, but the State Employment Office cannot place you on jobs unless you have registered there.

Similarly, the government has appropriated millions to re-train men for defense duties, but assignment for this re-training is difficult unless you have registered showing your past experience in skilled and semi-skilled trades.

The TRIBUNE urges all colored workers with any kind of skills to go to their nearest State Employment Office and give full information about their skills — and not to be satisfied with being classified as a "laborer" or "general houseworker" if such classification is not correct. In registering, it will be necessary to tell the employment office where you have worked and the type of work you performed. **IF YOU HAVE REGISTERED BEFORE, IT WILL NOT HURT TO LET THE EMPLOYMENT OFFICE KNOW THAT YOU WANT A JOB.**

Colored workers are also urged to apply for jobs wherever work is opening. If you are turned down because of race or color, the TRIBUNE, for one, would like to hear about it. **YOUR GOVERNMENT IS SPENDING MILLIONS FOR DEFENSE. Jobs pay much, much more than relief.**

Equality Rights Sought For Negro In Defense Plan

DEC 14 1940

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.— (ANP) — The fight of Negro citizens for the right to fight as a part of America's defense on a plane of full equality with other Americans, has only started, says Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in an article appearing in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post. Writing on "It's Our Country Too", Walter White declares: "The Negro insists upon doing his part and the army and navy want none of him" the article declares, citing many instances of alleged discrimination. "National Negro organizations have accumulated files full of case records and put the problem in No. 1 position on their fighting agenda."

Battle History of Negroes
Negroes have fought in every war in our history and have been aided for their bravery by commanding generals from Andrew Jackson to John J. Pershing.

"Despite this record, the United States in preparation for and the fighting of the next war—hesitates to make use of its reservoir of Negro man power or has used it as little or as insignificantly as possible."

Citing the list of outstanding Negro athletes in connection with the qualification for fliers the article

says "the record suggests that the country would lose less by refusing to train Harvard, Yale and Princeton men for the flying corps than by refusing to train Negroes."

In a few cases, Negroes have been permitted to take training courses from the Civil Aeronautics Authority universities, the article says, pointing out that Walter L. Robinson finished at the University of Minneapolis as 13th in a class of 300 but was unable to enlist in the army air corps. He was almost instantly accepted in Canada.

Robinson Readily Accepted By Canada

"The Robinson case has become a cause celebre among Negroes and in the Negro press", White says. Thoughtful Negroes, says a Negro educator 'are wondering whether it will take the national humiliation of military defeat such as France now knows' to establish, for American Negroes the right to fight for America.

"But the no-place-for-Negroes policy of the Air Corps does not differ greatly from that of other branches of the army."

"During the army's high-pressure drive for enlistments, it has been virtually impossible for Negroes to volunteer in any branch of the service."

The same policy to a large degree, he says, "prevails in industries working on preparedness contracts and in some instances, at least, this policy is adhered to regardless of the consequences to defense."

Negro Job Seekers Caught In Vicious Segregation Trap

DEC 21 1940

NEW YORK.—Something of the manner in which billion-dollar industrial plants, particularly aircraft manufacturers, on the west coast have succeeded with the aid of local boards of education in keeping Negro job applicants out of defense industry, was revealed here today by Walter White, executive secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. White returned this week from a month's speaking tour in connection with the Association's campaign to break down discrimination against the Negro in the national defense program, including the army and navy. He addressed 62 meetings, twenty of them sponsored by N. A. A. C. P. branches in sixteen cities from Boston to San Francisco.

"I found in San Diego, Calif., for example," he said, "that the school board has issued an order barring Negro children from taking vocational courses unless they can produce letters from employers like the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation insuring them jobs. And yet, a Mr. Gott, manager of this huge aircraft corporation which is making planes for the national defense program, told members of a delegation from our San Diego branch that he was unable to employ Negroes because they were untrained."

"Thoughtful white and colored people on the coast are now seeing the vicious circle—Negroes cannot get jobs because they are not trained and they cannot get training because no jobs are guaranteed them."

Particularly acute is the situation in the Boeing aircraft plant at Seattle, Washington, where it was recently revealed that a large number of Nazi Bundists are not only employed but occupy strategic positions in the plant, while Negroes, whatever their qualifications, are denied jobs in the plant because of the attitude of the plant manage-

ment. These facts are slowly being driven home to Negroes all over the country, who are beginning to realize that they have a common interest in this fight.

"White college students," he said, "are becoming more and more aware of the problems now faced by the Negro in national defense and they have a healthy desire to do something about it."

"At the University of California," he continued, "I found that one of the liveliest issues on the campus is the students' resentment against discrimination which faces the Negro in the national defense program, including the Army, Navy, Air Corps and particularly in the industrial phases of that program."

Commenting on Mr. White's appearance on the campus, the "Daily Californian," student daily paper of the University of California at Berkeley, said editorially:

"A fascist ideology sown in American soil by Americans, cultivated by American economics and camouflaged by American politics, was described by a remarkable man in the fourth of a series of lectures on the problem of racial minorities, Friday evening. The speaker's name is Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People."

"On the negative side," the N. A. A. C. P. secretary said, "I found that in some cities there was a tendency on the part of some of our people, who have lived in certain cities all their lives or who have come to the West Coast from the South, to believe that because the more obvious forms of discrimination do not exist in their locality, they face no problem."

"This tendency, however, is being broken down and I predict that it will be changed even more by the fact that a great many southern white people from Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana have migrated to the west coast, particu-

larly into Southern California. Some of these people, unfortunately are bringing their traditional prejudices and are enthusiastically spreading them."

White had high praise for the loyal work over a period of years, exhibited by branch officials and members, whom he contacted on the tour. "Added to this" he said, "I found a tremendous amount of interest on the part of young people for the work of the Association, particularly among student groups."

"Particularly significant," he pointed out, "was the deep interest in and knowledge of the work of the Association and its importance to the fight for democracy for all Americans which I found among white people on the coast. Particularly was this true in the colleges among the faculty members and students."

DEC 21 1940

The N. A. A. C. P. secretary spoke at the following colleges during his tour: Occidental College, Los Angeles; University of California at Berkeley; College of Puget Sound, Tacoma; and the University of Washington, Seattle.

Defense Needs Cause Great Building Boom

OCT 2 1940

Contracts Total 97 Mil-
lions in Atlanta
District.

Riding the upward swing of a great bulding boom based largely on national defense needs, construction contracts awarded in the Sixth Federal Reserve District soared to the highest peak in this district's history during August, reaching an all-time high mark of \$97,500,000, which nearly doubled the New York district's total of \$55,000,000 and is \$33,500,000 over the previous peak, set in February, 1926.

These figures, taken from the monthly business review of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, showed contracts awarded in this district to be up 394 per cent over August of 1939.

Leads Nation.

"While contracts throughout the United States are finding new levels, the total volume of contracts in this district was far greater than that in any of the other 10 Federal Reserve districts for which figures are reported," the review commented. "Nearest to Atlanta's total was New York's \$55,000,000; a sum only 56 per cent as great."

Trade and other industrial activities made further gains in August. Pig iron output in Alabama was at a new high, advancing to 105 per cent of its regular capacity. Retail distribution of merchandise, always larger in August than in July, increased about four

per cent more than might have been expected. The August index was nearly 10 per cent above that for August last year, and the increase for the January-August period over that part of 1939 was about eight per cent. Wholesale trade advanced 14 per cent over July and four per cent over August last year. Building permits, however, declined.

Contracts Jump.

"National defense is the topic of the hour," the review stated, "injecting itself not only into political discussions but, by sheer magnitude, into every appraisal of the economic situation. In this issue of the Monthly Review, the influence of the defense program is flagged beyond the possibility of oversight by a 394 per cent rise in contracts awarded in this district in August over August, 1939. So large a rise is difficult to comprehend."

Between June 13 and September 13, construction contracts totaling \$6,995,000 were awarded for Georgia national defense projects, while Georgia textile mills received \$10,567,000 in defense orders.

Generally improved conditions in the southeast also were reflected in increased nav rolls, employment, bank debts, bank loans and investments and demand deposits, adjusted.

Commercial failures declined from the July figure and were nearly half the August 1939 total, while the consumption of electric power increased. Debts to individual accounts in Atlanta banks were \$220,151,000, an increase of 12.9 per cent over August, last year, and a 9.9 per cent decline from July. Georgia's farm income from January through July amounted to \$56,028,000, as compared with \$58,943,000 for the same seven months of 1939.

173 PERMITS ISSUED IN FULTON COUNTY

Construction in Fulton county outside the city is booming, according to the figures of the county building inspection department for September.

A total of 173 permits for construction valued at \$500,655 was issued, the amount being the second highest for any month since the department was in-

stalled in 1938. It is topped only by the month of June, 1939 when 107 permits valued at \$528,184 were issued. August of 1940 had only 126 permits totaling \$355,452 worth of building.

Urges Employment Of Negroes In All Defense Industries

OCT 2 1940

PITTSBURGH.—(ANP)—A complete utilization of all available Negro skills needed in defense industries was urged by Lieut. L. A. Oxley, supervisor of the Negro Placement Service Bureau of Employment Security, in an address at Warren church, before the N. A. A. C. P. He stressed particularly the thought that all available skills needed in defense industries must be utilized, but the speaker emphasized that all available Negro skills must be engaged in the prosecution of the National Defense program.

The speaker outlined plainly the policy as laid down by the advisory commission to the Council of National Defense respecting labor and that every effort will be made to insure the Negro an equitable and proportionate share in training and placement in the defense industries.

Lieut. Oxley asserted that national defense can become effective only if behind it "there stands a truly united nation determined to use every ounce of its strength in support of democracy," and that there must be an equal participation in the affairs of our government by all persons, regardless of race, creed or color. Above all, he added, every individual and each local community must be mindful of a responsibility in the activities of the Defense Program.

"There must be a spirit of active cooperation and helpfulness between Negro organizations, administrative agencies and local authorities," Lieut. Oxley said. He pointed out that much can be and should be accomplished in educating employers to the employment needs of the Negro if there is a closer relationship be-

tween Negro organizations and policy-forming groups.

Lieut. Oxley discussed the program and objective of the Negro Placement service and told his listeners that this special unit was primarily concerned with stimulating an awareness among United States Employment Service personnel that all available Negro skills are needed for utilization in defense industries.

After stating the pressing necessity of training persons in the various trades and skills required for and essential in defense industries, the speaker encouraged his audience to lend every effort possible in developing an interest among Negroes to register in the training program so vital to our national defense.

THOSE DEFENSE JOBS

SEP 28 1940

With Congress appropriating \$15,000,000,000 for national defense, contracts for everything from battleships to tent pegs have been awarded to some 130 firms throughout the United States.

To fulfill these contracts these firms must have labor, raw material, machinery and plants, and anyway you look at it this spells jobs.

Since there are proportionately more Negroes than whites unemployed in this country, Negroes need even a larger percentage of these jobs than whites.

But they are emphatically not getting them.

Most of these 130 companies do not employ Negroes at all or they employ only enough to piously contend that they are not discriminating against anybody because of color.

In its campaign against this discrimination against Negroes, the N.A.A.C.P. is urging its 400 branches to visit the various plants, urge the employment of Negroes and educate colored workers to apply for jobs.

The Association is asking those organizations interested in aiding its defense job campaign to write to its national headquarters, 69 Fifth avenue, New York, N.Y.

Negro Job Seekers Caught In Vicious Circle Operated By Aircraft Companies, White Says

DEC 14 1940

Something of the manner in which billion-dollar industrial plants, particularly aircraft manufacturers, on the west coast have succeeded with the aid of local boards of education in keeping Negro job applicants out of defense industry, was revealed here by Walter White, executive secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. White returned this week from a month's speaking tour in connection with the Association's campaign to break down discrimination against the Negro in the national defense program, including the army and navy. He addressed 62 meetings, twenty of them sponsored by NAACP branches in sixteen cities from Boston to San Francisco.

"I found at San Diego, California, for example," he said, "that the school board has issued an order barring Negro children from taking vocational courses unless they can produce letters from employers like the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation insuring them jobs. And yet, a Mr. Gott, manager of this huge aircraft corporation which is making planes for the national defense program, told members of a delegation from our San Diego branch that he was unable to employ Negroes because they were untrained."

"Thoughtful white and colored people on the coast are now seeing the vicious circle—Negroes cannot get jobs because they are not trained and they cannot get training because no jobs are guaranteed them."

"Particularly acute is the situation in the Boeing aircraft plant at Seattle, Washington, where it was recently revealed that a large number of Nazi Bundists are not only employed but occupy strategic positions in the plant, while Negroes, whatever their qualifica-

tions, are denied jobs in the plant because of the attitude of the plant management. These facts are slowly being driven home to Negroes all over the country, who are beginning to realize that they have a common interest in this fight.

"White college students," he said, "are becoming more and more aware of the problems now faced by the Negro in national defense and they have a healthy desire to do something about it."

Students Resentful

"At the University of California," he continued, "I found that one of the liveliest issues of the campus is the students' resentment against discrimination which faces the Negro in the national defense program, including the Army, Navy Air Corps, and particularly in the industrial phases of that program."

Commenting on Mr. White's appearance on the campus, the Daily Californian, student paper of the University of California at Berkeley, said editorially:

"A Fascist ideology sown in American soil by Americans, cultivated by American economics and camouflaged by American politics was described by a remarkable man in the fourth of a series of lectures on the problem of racial minorities Friday evening. The speaker's name is Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People."

"On the negative side," the N. A. A. C. P. secretary said, "I found that in some cities there was a tendency on the part of some of our people, who have lived in certain cities all their lives or who have come to the West Coast from the South, to believe that because the more obvious forms of discrimination do not exist in their locality, they face no problem."

"This tendency, however, is being broken down and I predict that it will be changed even more by the fact that a great many southern white people from Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi, Louisi-

ana and Arkansas have migrated to the west coast, particularly into Southern California. Some of these people, unfortunately, are bringing their traditional prejudices and are enthusiastically spreading them."

White had high praise for the loyal work over a period of years, exhibited by branch officials and members, whom he contacted on the tour. "Added to this," he said, "I found a tremendous amount of interest on the part of young people for the work of the Association, particularly among student groups."

"Particularly significant," he pointed out, "was the deep interest in and knowledge of the work of the Association and its importance to the fight for democracy for all Americans which I found among white people on the coast. Particularly was this true in the colleges among the faculty members and students."

The NAACP secretary spoke at the following colleges during his tour: Occidental College, Los Angeles; University of California at Berkeley; College of Puget Sound, Tacoma, and the University of Washington, Seattle.

Skilled Negro Workers Barred At Ft. Dix, N. J.

Three Florida Airports Also Refused to Hire Negro Skilled Laborers; Negroes to Fill Work In Agricultural Projects

NEW YORK CITY — Negro carpenters are being refused employment at construction projects now going forward at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and Negro skilled and unskilled workers are barred from working at United States Government air fields now under construction in three cities in Florida, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People revealed today.

The revelation was made in connection with the association's survey of discrimination against the Negro in the operation of the government's national defense program throughout the country. At Fort Dix, New Jersey, where construction firms working under

government contracts are engaged in a huge building program to house troops, the NAACP learned that only three Negro carpenters are employed out of 250 carpenters working there.

Despite the fact that the Greater Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, an A. F. of L. union, which controls the job, has a large number of Negro members, many of whom have been in the union more than a score of years, the union has issued an order barring work to all except residents of the county. No Negro members of the union live in the county. The three Negro carpenters now employed at Fort Dix, got their jobs only after they made a strong protest.

More than fifteen Negro carpenters have been refused work at the camp during the past few weeks, although white carpenters who are non-residents of the county, are being employed daily.

Negroes Barred In Florida

At West Palm Beach, Florida, where the government is preparing to spend a million dollars to build one of the numerous air fields proposed of this section of the country, the County Commissioners have made it plain to local contractors that they prefer to have Negroes do what they term "agricultural work," rather than any type of skilled or unskilled work at Morrison Aviation Field.

Defense Program Makes Jobs Near Peak, Still Negroes Crowd Relief Rolls

Employment Situation As A Whole Is Better But Negro Condition Is Same

Many On Relief But Able To Work

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—Employment in this section is now within 11,000 workers of the all-time employment peak, but employment of Negroes does not present so hopeful a picture, according to a survey made several days ago in the Chicago area embracing several counties in Illinois and an adjoining Indiana county. Chicago, an industrial center, and Illinois and an agricultural and mining state, combine to furnish a reliable barometer for the situation of the United States as a whole. Much of the upswing in employment is a result of the national defense program and the wartime orders

a heavy contributor to the relief rolls remains the same.

In the first place, the relief and WPA rolls have not supplied many of the persons now being employed industrially. And those who do go into private industry are being replaced on the relief rolls by persons who have been here for years, and are now forced to apply for relief. It is equally true, probably, that many ill and otherwise helpless persons have crowded here from southern states and gotten on relief.

The tragedy of the situation is that only 40 per cent of the Negro relievers are employable. And of those who can work, industry is failing to employ them, for according to Chicago relief commissioner, Leon M. Lyons, "Many persons whom the administration classifies as 'employable' are not acceptable to industry." He continues, "Likewise, job opportunities now available are for persons having specialized skills. The most recent study of relief recipients indicates that more than half of those classed as 'employable' are unskilled laborers." Latest figures show that 60 per cent of Chicago's Negroes are on relief. Even more startling is the fact that while Negroes form only eight per cent of the total population, they form 40 per cent of the number of persons on relief.

Taken at its face value, this picture of the employment situation seems brighter, and full of promise for "better things to come," but an analysis shows that the Negro is not benefitting by the change and that his status as

URGED TO APPLY FOR TRAINING IN AIRCRAFT DEFENSE SCHOOLS

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Eight Industrial Defense Schools In New York Will
Start Operation Dec. 1.

OCT 12 1940

NEW YORK, Oct. 10 — Members of the NAACP throughout New York State were urged to launch a campaign immediately advising Negroes to make application for training in the eight industrial defense aircraft schools which will begin operation in the State, December 1.

Announcement of the new setup of such workers in the aircraft industry in New York state.

was made Monday, Sept. 30 by Governor Lehman, who said that \$110,000 had been appropriated to finance the schools which will train 25,000 semi-skilled workers to meet the shortage of such workers in the aircraft industry in New York State. According to the announcement schools will be set up in Nassau county, Yonkers, Utica, Elmira, Syracuse, Plattsburg, Watertown and in one other city not yet announced. It is expected that 11,000 men will be trained at these schools during next year in welding, riveting, flat metal and preliminary assembly work.

According to Dr. A. Wilson, associate commissioner of education of New York, aircraft plants in Buffalo and Long Island have told him that they will need at least 52,000 new workers, about half of them semi-skilled, during the coming year.

Negroes Urged To Apply at Aircraft Schools

OCT 13 1940

NEW YORK, Oct. 10—Members of the NAACP throughout New York State were urged to launch a campaign immediately advising Negroes to make application for training in the eight industrial defense aircraft schools which will begin operation in the state December 1.

Announcement of the new setup was made Monday, September 30, by Governor Lehman, who said that \$110,000 had been appropriated to finance the schools

New York Age - New York, N.Y.
Oxley Urges Employment Of Negroes In All Industries Essential To National Defense

OCT 12 1940

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—A complete utilization of all available Negro skills needed in defense industries

was urged by Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley, Supervisor of the Negro Placement Service, Bureau of Employment Security in an address at the Warren Church, before the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He stressed particularly the thought that all available skills needed in defense industries must be utilized, but the speaker emphasized that all available Negro skills must be engaged in the prosecution of the National Defense Program.

The speaker outlined plainly the policy as laid down by the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense respecting labor and insisted that every effort will be made to insure the Negro an equitable and proportionate share in training and placement in the defense industries.

Lieut. Oxley asserted that national defense can become effective only if behind it "there stands a truly united nation determined to use every ounce of its strength in support of democracy", and that there must be an equal participation in the affairs of our government by all persons, regardless of race, creed or color. Above all, he added, every individual and each local community must be mindful of a responsibility in the activities of the Defense Program.

"There must be a spirit of active cooperation and helpfulness between Negro organizations, administrative agencies and local authorities," Lieut. Oxley said. He pointed out that much can be and should be accomplished in educating employers to the employment needs

whites only.

In answer to an inquiry, E. P. Hornlein, manager of the bureau, advised this newspaper that in being called upon to fill the call from his files, he has been restricted to

DENIED JOBS AT FORT DIX AND AIR FIELDS

NEW YORK—Employment is being refused carpenters of our group on construction projects now going forward at Fort Dix, N. J., and at government air fields in three Florida cities both skilled and unskilled colored workers are being barred.

Disclosure of the discrimination was made by the NAACP, which is conducting a survey of employment in defense projects. At Fort Dix, for instance, only three out of 350 carpenters are colored.

placement of white carpenters only by the contractor handling the construction at Fort Eustis.

ONLY LABORERS CALLED

The employment bureau has already placed over 300 Negro laborers on the project at 45 cents per hour, and receives calls almost daily for such unskilled help.

First class carpenters will be paid \$1 per hour with helpers and apprentices receiving from 45 cents to 80 cents per hour.

The placement office of Hampton Institute has tried unsuccessfully to place available men in the skilled and semi-skilled on federally-supported, and national defense projects in Newport News and the Peninsula area, in spite of the fact that the qualifications of Hampton men have been endorsed by Mr. Hornlein.

1,500 Whites Called
Virginia Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Plenty Jobs For Laborers at 40 Cents Per Hour
DEC 28 1940

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—The local bureau of the Virginia State Employment Office sent out a statewide flash Saturday of last week for 1,500 carpenters to construction barracks and administration buildings at Fort Eustis—but the call is for

Negro Workers Eye Share in Huge Defense Housing Program

DEC 13 1940

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)

While various organizations throughout the country are asking that Negro workers be given a fair chance in the national defense program as far as manufacturing and armaments are concerned, Negro artisans, skilled and unskilled workers are listening eagerly to hear whether or not they will have any part in the huge \$150,000,000 national defense housing program.

As the matter now stands the government has appropriated this vast sum for the construction of home for defense workers, multiple and single dwellings to care for those who will be employed in the vast manufacturing program getting under way. Where there is inadequate housing the government plans to step in and take over the situation.

This means that there will or should be adequate housing available close to the plants where defense workers will be employed.

Will Enable Employment

And in some instances, if the plans are pushed, it will enable Negroes to obtain employment, should the government be far sighted enough to see that Negroes are included in the housing projects both as workers on the buildings and as residents in the completed projects.

Pointing with no little pride to the successful infiltration of Negro workers on the U. S. Housing projects, these same workers who hope for employment in the new program show that many workers were employed on these projects before their completion and with little or no labor friction.

Skilled workers were employed, electricians, plumbers, plasterers, brick layers, etc., right on through the construction of the houses through clauses inserted in contracts awarded builders.

In some instances the percentage of Negroes thus employed was greater than the percentage prescribed in the contracts and the workers did highly satisfactory work.

With this as a precedent, the workers hope for an equitable share in the vast program which would assure them a continuance of employment since the Government is doing more building than private contractors.

The assurance that Negroes will

be employed on these new projects would do much to restore their confidence in the administration for they point out that inasmuch as it would prevent employers from saying they would engage Negroes except for the fact that there were no accommodations for them.

In a recent magazine article, John M. Carmody, federal works administrator, wrote

"As this is written, congress has enacted legislation and provided the funds for a special housing program to meet urgent needs arising from the great preparedness drive now in full swing. This is being written before the ink from the President's pen is scarcely dry on the acts creating these underlings. Quite naturally some details remain to be worked out.

"Charles F. Palmer, defense housing coordinator, has not only checked the need for new construction, but has cleared with FHA with respect to the degree to which private banking or real estate interest can supply these needs and thereby relieve the federal government of at least part of the job of providing homes for defense workers and their families."

Discussing the program for construction of the defense housing as far as the army is concerned, Mr. Carmody said the program is scheduled for completion by May of next year.

Part of the requirements to be met will include the answering of a questionnaire by the contractors seeking work. Included in the factors are the contractor's present load, other government contracts currently held, organization, financial assets, experience in the field of low cost housing.

Plans are being studied for the possible mass purchase of fixtures and standard facilities such as bathtubs, toilet bowls, kitchen cabinets, ranges, refrigerators and heating units. If feasible, these facilities will be sought in a single standard size for all of the contemplated projects.

Not only will workers in defense plants be housed in these new projects, but in this military plan for the army, enlisted personnel, non-commissioned officers and so forth will be housed in the army buildings. Rentals for the houses thus occupied will be fixed by housing departments. Rentals for civilian defense workers will be fixed after taking into consideration all factors, quality of housing supplied, existing rent levels in the community, the family earning capacity

and so on.

Negro are eagerly waiting further developments in this gigantic housing program and hope for the best as they say they got under the U. S. Housing administration, feeling that the same principles may be applied in the defense building program.

DEFENSE TRAINING

DEC 21 1940

NEGRO MECHANICS, who have had difficulty gaining admittance for defense training courses at the vocational schools in this city, will be glad to learn that the requirements have been let down so that many more persons may receive the training.

There are two classes held daily, one at 4 p. m., and the other at 7 p. m., at the various vocational high schools of the city. Readers of The New York Age who wish to take these courses to prepare themselves for jobs in industries essential to national defense should enroll now at any of the city's vocational high schools.

The opportunity is here for our mechanics and skilled laborers to further qualify for these jobs. If they fail to take advantage of it there should be no crying of "discrimination" afterwards.

40 Carpenters At Camp Meade

DEC 13 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Indications that racial employment policies were being altered through the non-discrimination policy adopted by organized labor at the behest of the National Defense Advisory Commission, were seen this week in the employment of more than 40 Negro union carpenters on the barracks construction program at Camp Meade, Md.

The hiring of the 40 Negro carpenters, with openings for an estimated 60 more, was announced by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Administrative Assistant in the Division of Labor Supply, which is headed by Sidney Hillman, Labor Commissioner.

FOLLOWS CONFERENCE

Dr. Weaver's announcement followed a conference with Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary of the Baltimore Urban League and Business Manager of Local 544, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, A. F. of L.

Mr. Lewis, who had originally protested to Commissioner Hillman and Dr. Weaver on alleged bans against Negroes on the camp construction work, reported that the 40 Negro skilled workers are receiving \$1.25 an hour on the job, with \$2.50 an hour for over time. As a result of the invoking of the A. F. of L.-C.I.O. non-discrimination agreement, he said, the construction officials have promised employment of an estimated 60 more Negro carpenters at Camp Meade.

OTHER PROGRESS

Dr. Weaver also reported further progress in the integration of Negro skilled workers in the defense program at three other camps—Camp Lee, Va., Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Ark., and Camp Eustis, Va. At the Camp Lee construction project Negro carpenters were admitted to Local 1534 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America for employment on the barracks construction there. Construction officials on the project have expressed willingness to employ Negroes in all categories, Dr. Weaver said, and the Virginia Employment Service offices are pre-

gram. Fortunately, a number of Negro carpenters are available in many parts of the country. Negro workers are not so fortunate in other categories. If we take full advantage of the vocational training courses which are open to Negroes, for the first time in many cases, we will be in a better position to take advantage of the many skilled jobs which will open as the program progresses."

NEGROES IN DEFENSE INDUSTRIES. 26 1940

The Chicago Urban league calls attention to inability of Negroes to obtain employment on national defense projects. The defense commission has said that "workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race, or color," but this policy has not been carried into practice. Some employers, the league finds, refuse to give employment to Negro men and women even when they are skilled craftsmen in trades in which there is a shortage of trained workmen. Some trade unions, while refusing to admit Negroes to membership, at the same time maintain a monopoly of the work. Negroes are not admitted to apprenticeships in these unions. The league finds that the discrimination extends even to "certain types of training in one of our tax supported public schools."

It is not easy to uproot long standing prejudices and customs. The point of the league's protest, as we read it, is not that every discrimination should be instantly removed but that no effort is being made to remove any of them, even though they are operating to retard the rearmament program, and even though they run counter to the expressed policy of the government in this matter.

That is a matter for deep regret; but it should surprise no one who has followed the course of the present administration these last eight years. To hear the New Dealers tell it they are devoted to the welfare of the unfortunate, the down-trodden, the handicapped. They talk big but their real aim is to create and maintain an enormous army of dependents in the cities as on the farms. Thus, posing as the friends of the Negro, the New Dealers have done nothing more for him than to pauperize him.

The New Deal used the Negroes in the 1936 election and again in the 1940 election. The party of the solid south became also the party of tens of thousands of Negro voters in northern industrial cities. Now that the election has been won, the promises—both the expressed ones and the implied ones—have been conveniently forgotten.

"Must Better Themselves"

Negro technicians interested in positions with the various industrial plants engaged in the production of defense material must not sit idly by waiting for a job to be tossed into their laps. It is regrettable that these men are not being sought out, but such is the case and, they, therefore, must go after the jobs.

The government is spending millions of dollars for National De-

defense. Plants in almost every section of the country are handling this

business. Announcements have recently been made that several hundred thousand men, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled will be put to work by April of 1941. If Negroes are to get their share of this employment, they must begin now to better themselves. The placement bureau of The National Technical Association with its roster of well-trained engineers, chemists, architects and designers,

40 Carpenters At Camp Meade

DEC 13 1940
WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—

Indications that racial employment policies were being altered through the non-discrimination policy adopted by organized labor at the behest of the National Defense Advisory Commission, were seen this week in the employment of more than 40 Negro union carpenters on the barracks construction program at Camp Meade, Md.

The hiring of the 40 Negro carpenters for an estimated 1,000 workers, with openings for an estimated 60 more, was announced by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Administrative Assistant in the Division of Labor Supply, which is headed by Sidney Hillman, Labor Commissioner. Skilled carpenters on the Camp Lee project receive \$1 an hour and not half for overtime.

Follows Conference

Dr. Weaver's announcement followed a conference with Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary of the Baltimore Urban League and Business Manager of Local 544, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, A. F. of L.

Mr. Lewis, who had originally protested to Commissioner Hillman and Dr. Weaver on alleged bans against Negroes on the camp construction work, reported that the 40 Negro skilled workers are receiving \$1.25 an hour on the job, with \$2.50 an hour for overtime. As a result of the invoking of the A. F. of L.-C.I.O. non-discrimination agreement, he said, the construction officials have promised employment of an estimated 60 more Negro carpenters at Camp Meade.

OTHER PROGRESS

Dr. Weaver also reported further progress in the integration of Negro skilled workers in the defense program at three other camps—Camp Lee, Va., Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Ark., and Camp Eustis, Fla. At the Camp Lee construction project Negro carpenters were admitted to Local 1534 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America for employment on the barracks construction there. Construction officials on the project have expressed willingness to employ Negroes in all categories. Dr. Weaver said, and the Virginia Employment Service offices are pre-

gram. Fortunately, a number of Negro carpenters are available in many parts of the country. Negro workers are not so fortunate in other categories. If we take full advantage of the vocational training courses which are open to Negroes, for the first time in many cases, we will be in a better position to take advantage of the many skilled jobs which will open as the program progresses."

NEGROES IN DEFENSE INDUSTRIES. 26 1940

The Chicago Urban League calls attention to inability of Negroes to obtain employment on national defense projects. The defense commission has said that "workers should not be discriminated against because of age, sex, race, or color," but this policy has not been carried into practice. Some employers, the league finds, refuse to give employment to Negro men and women even when they are skilled craftsmen in trades in which there is a shortage of trained workmen. Some trade unions, while refusing to admit Negroes to membership, at the same time maintain a monopoly of the work. Negroes are not admitted to apprenticeships in these unions. The league finds that the discrimination extends even to "certain types of training in one of our tax supported public schools."

It is not easy to uproot long standing prejudices and customs. The point of the league's protest, as we read it, is not that every discrimination should be instantly removed but that no effort is being made to remove any of them, even though they are operating to retard the rearmament program, and even though they run counter to the expressed policy of the government in this matter.

That is a matter for deep regret; but it should surprise no one who has followed the course of the present administration these last eight years. To hear the New Dealers tell it they are devoted to the welfare of the unfortunate, the down-trodden, the handicapped. They talk big but their real aim is to create and maintain an enormous army of dependents in the cities as on the farms. Thus, posing as the friends of the Negro, the New Dealers have done nothing more for him than to pauperize him.

The New Deal used the Negroes in the 1936 election and again in the 1940 election. The party of the solid south became also the party of tens of thousands of Negro voters in northern industrial cities. Now that the election has been won, the promises—both the expressed ones and the implied ones—have been conveniently forgotten.

"Must Better Themselves"

Negro technicians interested in positions with the various industrial plants engaged in the production of defense material must not sit idly by waiting for a job to be tossed into their laps. It is regrettable that these men are not being sought out, but such is the case and, they, therefore, must go after the jobs. The government is spending millions of dollars for National De-

fense. Plants in almost every section of the country are handling this business. Announcements have recently been made that several hundred thousand men, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled will be put to work by April of 1941. If Negroes are to get their share of this employment, they must begin now to better themselves.

The placement bureau of The National Technical Association with its roster of well-trained engineers, chemists, architects and designers,

Skilled Negro Workers Barred At Ft. Dix N.J. and 3 Florida Air Ports

DEC 27 1940

NEW YORK.—Negro carpenters are being refused employment at construction projects now going forward at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and Negro skilled and unskilled workers are barred from working at the United States Government airfields now under construction in three cities in Florida, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People revealed this week.

The revelation was made in connection with the association's survey of discrimination against the Negro national defense program throughout in the operation of the Government's the country.

At Fort Dix, New Jersey, where construction firms working under Government contracts are engaged in a huge building program to house troops, the NAACP learned that only three Negro carpenters are employed out of 350 carpenters working there.

Despite the fact that the Greater Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, an A. F. of L. union, which controls the job, has a large number of Negro members, many of whom have been in the union more than a score of years, the union has issued an order barring work to all except residents of the county. No Negro members of the union live in the county. The three Negro carpenters now employed at Fort Dix, got their jobs only after they made a strong protest.

More than fifteen Negro carpenters have been refused work at the camp during the past few weeks, although white carpenters who are non-residents of the county, are being employed daily.

Negroes Barred in Florida

At West Palm Beach, Florida, where the Government is preparing to spend a million dollars to build one of the numerous air fields proposed for this section of the country, the County Commissioners have made it plain to local contractors that they prefer to have Negroes do what they term "agricultural work," rather than any type of skilled or unskilled work at Morrison Aviation Field.

An idea of how these Commissioners view the situation and also their estimate of the relationship of Negro

women and children to agricultural work, is seen in the following newspaper account of the matter.

"County Agent M. M. Mounts said this morning that a recent survey of the Negro agricultural labor supply in the South end of the county did not show a threatened shortage, even if the construction of the Eighth Pursuit Wing Headquarters cantonment at Morrison Field drew off large numbers of Negroes. The county commission yesterday voted to ask contractors to adopt a policy of hiring only white unskilled labor to keep from disturbing the Negro agricultural labor supply. Commissioner C. Y. Byrd presented the motion.

"All builders and experienced men in construction trades questioned today agreed that Negroes will probably have to be hired for many tasks because sufficient white men would not volunteer. Raking hot asphalt and working in wet muck were suggested as two tasks at which Negroes would work better than white men. Mr. Mounts said the peak of farm labor demand on the Coast is in mid-December, about the same time airport construction will be hiring large crews. But he said that with Negro women and children working as pickers, as is their custom, no shortage would be felt."

Reports from Tallahassee, Florida, show that, despite the fact that scores of Negro skilled workers are available here, and have made application for work at the million-dollar air field construction job now going on, all have been refused. "while any white worker who has a saw or hammer is employed."

Ten Negro members of local 305 Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, affiliated with the A. F. of L. were recently employed for two weeks at the United States Naval Air station in Pensacola, Florida, but were fired under the pretext that work had been caught up. Later it was reported, members of Local 737, whose members are white, were hired in the place of the men dismissed. Both locals were chartered by the same union.

No Negroes on Draft Boards

In many sections of Florida, including Tallahassee, no Negroes are serving either on local or advisory draft

boards, nor are any Negro physicians serving as medical aides with these boards.

The survey also reveals that no Negroes are serving on local draft boards in: Waterloo, Iowa; Casper, Wyoming; Memphis, Tenn.; Pueblo, Colo. None are employed as paid workers on these boards in: Waterloo, Casper, Memphis, and Pueblo. Pueblo, Colo., is the only city in the list with Negro physicians attached to the boards. In none of the cities is a Negro employed on advisory boards.

Fight Against Navy Jim Crow

The association announced that it is not only continuing the fight against the Navy Department's summary dismissal of the Negro messman who protested against the intolerable conditions to which they were subjected aboard ship, but broadening this campaign to include a fight to raise the whole status of the Negro in the Navy from the level of messman to which he is now relegated.

"We want to see a veritable broadside addressed to the Secretary of the Navy in the form of thousands of letters," Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel said, "in order that the Navy Department will understand that Negro citizens do not propose to submit meekly to this state of affairs. We urge all citizens to send letters to Secretary Frank Knox and to their Congressmen, urging them to abolish the Jim Crow set-up which relegates Negroes to the status of messmen, and gives them no chance to rise higher in the service, no matter what their qualifications or abilities may prove."

DEC 27 1940

Job Survey Continues

The Association has distributed the third list of individual Government contracts let to firms throughout the country. The list includes the name of the city, contractor, item, and the total contract price. Association branches have also received a survey questionnaire form to be used in gathering information. Branch committees are being set up to interview local plant managers about jobs for Negro workers.



SWEARS OATH OF ALLEGIANCE—As a prerequisite to its participation in the National Defense Program, the Department of Labor and Industry of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has required all its staff workers to take an oath of allegiance. Joseph V. Baker, head of the Division of Negro Research and Planning to provide for the problems of Negro workers, was among the first to take the oath. Mr. Baker was sworn in by Secretary Lewis G. Hines, first secretary in the history of the state to be chosen from the ranks of labor.

Army's Cooks, Bakers To Be Given Higher Rankings

Men To Serve As Instructors For
New Men In Food Preparation

DEC 27 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Recognizing the importance of well prepared food to the Army's health and happiness, the War Department today provided for the promotion of about 200 non-commissioned officers of the Quartermasters Corps with bakers and cooks ratings, to act as instructors in food preparation for enough of the trainees to insure good meals for all of the thousands of men to be inducted into the service.

Promotions to the grades of Master Sergeant, Technical Sergeant, and Staff Sergeant, all with bakers and cooks ratings, were provided from among the eligible men of the Quartermaster Corps of the Army. Each candidate for promotion to these grades must have had certain experience in the duties incident to the promotion sought, and all will serve as instructors of bakers and cooks.

Technical Sergeants with a bakers and cooks rating or First Sergeants of bakery companies, will be eligible for promotion to Master Sergeant (bakers and cooks). Staff Sergeants with bakers and cooks rating of First Sergeants, bakery companies, will be eligible for promotion to the grade of Technical Sergeant, bakers and cooks.

Enlisted men in all branches of the Army who either have graduated from the Bakers and Cooks courses or from one of the schools for promotion to Staff Sergeant, for bakers and cooks will be eligible for bakers and cooks. Enlisted men of the Quartermaster Corps who have successfully completed the bakers course at one of the bakers and cooks schools may be promoted to Staff Sergeants, bakers.

Social Injustice Does Not Pay

DEC 6 1940

To Owners and employees of Seattle Industries that have government contracts:

The work on which you are engaged is proof positive to you that the government thinks it is in dire need of defense. All America having pledged on election night to support the President as the one step to be taken first, you certainly agree that this is no time for divided councils. The defense being needed and President Roosevelt being the people's choice to lead, it follows that you should do whatever he asks.

Through the labor policy adopted by the National Defense Advisory committee, the President asks that there be "no discrimination" in work done for the common defense, a practical step. Building an adequate defense is an immense undertaking that requires every hand. At the same time it can be a call to patriotism, a move of highest spiritual value in the light of the experiences of nations that fell because they were divided.

The excuses and explanations given by the firms whose position on the employment of Negroes was news in this paper a week ago indicate that you do not think anything calls for a change in your habit. Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, and France are no warning to you. Britain reeling under the impact of bombs to you is some fairy tale. Even if President Roosevelt is seeking national unity and maximum production means all must work with none barred because of race color and religion, you feel that your ideas of race relations justify disregarding his request. Then why not say that in plain language and let those contracts you have go to others who will put the nation's welfare first?

But let's look forward, not backward. Our country and the democratic principle are now being stalked by Hitler who would crush them utterly as the one thing he must do to survive. In this country's defense Negroes have always counted. They stood with Jackson behind the cotton bales at New Orleans, they were valiant in the ships with Perry on Lake Erie. Their New York national guard regiment came home from overseas with its battle flags bearing France's insignia for conspicuous service.

Negroes and Whites Work Together Daily

In this day war is no longer fought in a thin battle line. In the World war it became several supporting trenches. Today it is nation deep, with every producer as much needed by defense and as certain to be attacked by the enemy as the man with the gun. America has not tried to win any other war without the Negro. Yet that is what it will be trying to do if he does not have his share in production now.

Do you say "Let Negroes work, but not under the same roof with me?" Why not with you? Whites do let blacks work beside them. Everyday in this very community whites and blacks wield the shovel together on WPA projects. The others claim that employing both races requires separate locker facilities is more nonsense.

You who own and operate industries, bear in mind that social justice will not be halted by any likes or dislikes you have. You say you are American, and that you support your President in this crisis. Then share the work just as you expect Negroes to share the dangers of our national defense. If you can't be fair, be sensible.

Either practice democracy or boldly adopt the Hitler pattern with purges, concentration camps and wholesale deportations. You owners, let your ownership become mere titleship as it is in Germany. You workers, go in for one big union like Germany has, dictated to by another Hitler. There is no middle ground.

If you think you can put off sharing work with the Negro worker, read your papers. The fifth columnist, because he is white, is given work in plant after plant, while the loyal Negro is ordered out when he gets in line for work. Read your papers and see how the South and Central American nations keep holding back their confidence from the United States at this time when we feel that alliance with them is our best defense. Those countries have a majority that is "colored." No wonder they fear you. They see how you treat your own colored citizens, who ask only that they be sheltered by the structure which they helped to build. Be sensible! Social injustice does not pay!

Don't Handcuff the Negro's Loyalty

Employment given without discrimination will be a new deal for Negro workers. Custom has barred them for the most part hitherto. Now your President asks that you share the work with them. If you do not share with them, it is a refusal to follow his leadership. You will have set out on the road that made France fall.

You inflict "cruel and unusual punishment" when you require Negroes to buy food, clothing and shelter in the common market at the same time preventing them from earning a living on even terms. The custom is all wrong. It weakens the home market. It handcuffs loyalty.

Granted that you do not want Negroes to have work which is uppermost with you, your wishes or your country's good? That's the question. The public letter asks you to think!

But if you cannot or will not think, then see what you invite. Men's basic needs are under the protection of heaven itself. That must be so, or progress would not keep on riding like a car of Jugger-naut over obstacles. Mark how labor unionism has advanced. Negroes' forefathers were brought to this country for somebody else's selfish advantage, only to be set free. From actual chattel slavery they moved on into industrial bondage. Now to save itself, the President speaking for the nation says "Share the work" with them.

If you cannot or will not think, then look back in memory or read history. In 1856 the white slaves of Russia were set free. But their freedom like that of the blacks in this country was only in name. They were ruthlessly repressed by the Ozars. Then came 1917. The wrongs they suffered spawned Bolshevism. Communism, Fascism and Nazism followed in its steps. Against them we find ourselves compelled to arm. Social injustice abroad did not stop there. Neither will it be a harmless rash over here. —K. C. Call

Mark 1940

DEFENSE JOBS

NOV 16 1940

Negroes are NOT getting a square deal in defense industries.

Factory after factory, mill after mill refuses to give colored citizens employment although the contracts they have are being paid for by colored and white taxpayers alike.

Here again we shall have to organize to bring pressure on the federal government to correct this evil.

The ordinary colored citizen can help immensely in this campaign for defense jobs by finding out what mills and factories in his community has defense work and is refusing Negroes employment.

This information should then be sent to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

However, the Association wants facts and not rumor.

The ministerial alliances in the various communities and counties can also urge their members to gather such information from the members of their congregations and send it to the N.A.A.C.P.

Flagrant cases of discrimination should also be reported to this newspaper.

More Than Hash Slinging To Life Of Navy Messmen In Lil' Annapolis

NOV 28 1940 By MARGOT BRENT

U. S. NAVAL TRAINING STATION, NORFOLK, VA. —

Herein is located the "Annapolis" of the mess attendants of the United States Navy — where colored Americans, who are unable to enlist in the Navy as line sailors, are trained in the rudiments of stateroom and washroom care, the care of officers' clothing, and elementary preparation of food in galleys and pantries.

Philadelphia, Pa.
The Navy is proud of this "Little Annapolis," too. It is here that young

colored men who can pass the required physical and mental examination are recruited from all sections of the country for duty in the messman branch of Uncle Sam's first line of defense. The messman branch is considered part of the supply department of the Navy, and is charged with service to the various messes, from warrant officers to flag officers aboard ship.

At present, there are about 51 mess attendants at this Station undergoing training, according to H. A. McClure, Captain, U. S. Navy, commanding.

'Finest Recruit' Philadelphian

One of the most outstanding of this group is Walter Coleman, recently graduated and now mess attendant third class, U. S. Navy, who was recently selected as the "finest recruit" in a class of 70. A native of Philadelphia, Coleman as a boy was a TRIBUNE salesman.

Navy officials regard the training of mess attendants a very important phase of the service. The training includes weeks of strenuous work similar to that demanded of members of various other branches.

After enlistment, mess attendants are given a short course of training of eight weeks at the station here. This course of training includes instruction as messmen as well as military duties. The latter comprises infantry drills, physical drills with and without arms, use of rifle, gas defense and sentry duties, also class and lectures in fundamental naval subjects for the purpose of teaching these men

to become proficient members of the service.

Must Learn to Swim

Recruits are also required to learn to swim during their training period.

foods and supplies, preparation of and serving of well balanced meals, as well as cooking and baking.

Work in Ammunition

The military duties on fighting ships are in the essential roles of ammunition supply to the battery and as stretcher bearers for the medical department.

"The Navy Recruiting Service today, more than ever before," says Captain McClure, "is under the strictest orders to avoid any possible misleading statements fully and honestly to all prospective recruits what their chances and opportunities are, so that no misunderstanding with possible later resulting dissatisfaction can occur."

Assigned to Ships

Aboard the various ships of the fleet, they are assigned to the different messes where they actually put into practice the training they have received ashore.

Those men who have shown aptitude for handling foods are usually assigned to the galleys as "strikers" for the officers' cooks with a view of preparing them for that rating. On the larger ships an outstanding mess attendant is placed in charge of the "Cigar Mess", which is the officers' canteen.

All men of the messman branch are eligible for the rating of third, second and first class "officer's cooks and stewards" after they have passed through the rates of mess attendant—third, second and first class.

Promotion Possible

They must serve one year in each lower rate before being eligible for advancement to the next. All advancements are on a competitive basis after recommendation by commanding officers.

The pay of mess attendants third class is \$21 per month, which is increased to \$30 after four months' service.

All men of the messmen branch are eligible for the Officer's Cook and Officer's Steward Service Schools which are convened at San Diego, California, for advanced instruction of the fleet personnel. Men selected for this school are given advanced instruction in the management of messes, purchasing and accounting for



Walter Coleman, now a full-fledged messman in Uncle Sam's U. S. Navy, was one of the "finest recruits" ever to pass through the U. S. naval station in Norfolk.

He is shown, left, dressed for "mess" duties, while, right, he is in "full dress" summer uniform, leggings, gun, and bayonet. Coleman was once a TRIBUNE newsboy.

Navy Punishes 9 Negro 'Sailors'

A vigorous protest against the reported detention and punishment of nine Negro mess attendants attached to the U. S. S. Philadelphia was sent to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox on November 15 by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

the press to have been placed under virtual arrest with a view to punishing them for writing and signing a letter to the Pittsburgh Courier in which they outlined the treatment of Negroes in the United States Navy.

The NAACP letter declared to Colonel Knox that the colored people of this country "are bitter about the treatment of their men in the forces of the nation. . . . We wish to enter a most vigorous protest against the action and to request you as Secretary of the Navy to intervene."

"The Army has made some gestures toward improvement but the Navy seems unable to adjust itself believes and urges once more as it will continue to urge that the United States Navy maintained by the money of all the people for the protection of all the people, should tear down every restriction against enlistment and training which is based upon race, creed or color and should open up enlistment in all branches of the Navy to American citizens without regard to color."

The NAACP letter upheld the action of the nine mess attendants in bravely signing their names to the published letter of complaint, saying they had done so "in belief that they had a just complaint which ought not be weakened by an anonymous letter."



Every once in a while something comes along that symbolizes what democracy might be like. Here is the recent Navy Day Parade in Philadelphia with Navy men of both races marching together down Broad street. At present, however, the colored enlistee cannot hope to rise higher than the mess service; the white enlisted man can look ahead to promotions in keeping with his training and capacity.

'Too Dumb To Learn Say' Boys Of Saratoga

Dear Editor: DEC 28 1940

In behalf of the mess attendants who were aboard the U. S. S. Philadelphia we three of the U. S. S. Saratoga are writing concerning the same. We have been reading your paper about these boys and so agree with them although we have wanted to do this long before now, but we are afraid to write anything for fear of serious trouble. But we are now willing and ready to follow the footsteps of these boys.

It's true we are treated not as slaves but as Bonded Servants. It seems that nothing we do is right. Before going to the Navy we men were promised some sort of trade; such as, Electrical Machinery, Woodwork, etc., but we haven't as much been able to see any of it. When we imagine how to go about learning this kind of trade we are cursed out, insulted and told we should be happy where we are—but how can we? Why can't we have the rights as the whites? Why can't we sit down and eat our meals properly instead of standing? Why can't we get promoted as fast as the white man?

I am sure we have boys in this navy who could do this work such as electricity and machinery, etc., and are willing and eager to learn—but, no, we are not good enough for such, we are looked upon as being too dumb. How do they know or how will they ever know if we don't get a chance to prove that we can or can't. Some of our boys have tried to get in the Soda Fountain and Ship Laundry, but, no, we are colored; that kind of work is too good for us so they say.

We have even had boys too sick to work and because they wouldn't they were put in the Brig and fed bread and with guards standing over them with sticks and pistols as if they were some kind of wild animal about to attack them.

We do not write this letter for just we three but for all others, who we are sure agree with us for what we have said. We are praying and hoping that you and the public will make every effort in giving loyal support to help us accomplish what we have been denied.

We are not signing any names. We are sure you know why we are grateful. Thanking you in advance, we are yours respectfully,
Three Messmen
of U. S. S. Saratoga

George W. Minor,
Steward On U. S. Navy
Sub Promoted

DEC 14 1940
PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—George W. Minor, officers steward aboard the U. S. Navy submarine, S-11, was recently promoted to chief commissary steward after 23 years in the service of the navy. Mr. Minor was the first colored man to be assigned to submarine duty in the navy, which he entered in October 1917. The S-11 is stationed now in the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Born in Stamford, Conn. in 1899, he has followed the service of the Navy for 23 years and has won many medals and other honors.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 NAVY

Mobile, Ala. Press
September 11, 1940

COLORED YOUTHS JOIN NAVY

Two colored youths, Homer M. Kimpough of Plateau and London D. Richardson of Beatrice, Ala. have been accepted for duty in the United States navy, J. E. Green, officer in charge of the naval recruiting station in Mobile, announced today.

THOSE BRAVE COLORED SAILORS

OCT 12 1940

All honor to the fifteen Negro sailors of the U. S. S. PHILADELPHIA who dared sign their names to the letter published last week in this newspaper.

Only those who know how the Army and Navy publishes revelations of this kind, can appreciate what a courageous thing these young men have done and how bad conditions must be to have forced them to do it.

It is evident from their letter that there are no illiterate louts, but Negroes of intelligence and education.

They have been hurt and embittered by the robbery, discrimination and jim-crowism to which they have been subjected by their own government.

They have cried out, against this persecution and reached their people through the medium of this newspaper.

They have given us the information from first hand that we need in order to understand how to fight and defeat this octopus of Navy Negrophobia.

Now it is up to us to protect these young men against the vengeance of their officers.

Now it is up to us to see that they and the brown youngsters who follow them are given the consideration and opportunity that has hitherto been denied to colored boys.

As in the case of the army, our weapons must be maximum publicity backed up by shoals of letters and resolutions from Negro groups and individuals in all parts of the country sent to the members of the House of Representatives and the Senate in Washington.

They should be asked specifically to use their influence to remove ALL barriers now confronting Negroes in the United States Navy so that a colored youth may enter any branch of naval service and rise to any position within his capacity.

New Bern. N. C. New Berniaz
October 9, 1940

THREE NEGRO MEN CALLED BY NAVY

Three colored men, two as principals and one as an alternate, were called by the naval recruiting office here Wednesday to report at 1 p. m. on Tuesday, October 15, says Chief Gunner's Mate J. G. Berry, in charge of the naval recruiting office here. A quota of two mess attendants will be filled. The principals are Benjamin Brown of Engelhard and Melvin Lee Bryant of New Bern. The alternate is William Henry McCabe of New Bern.

Emanuel Jaynes Walker during the last week-end completed a sixteen weeks course of instructions in the quartermaster-signalman school at the Naval Training station, Norfolk, and is now visiting his mother, Mrs. Maude Delamar Walker, at her home in Oriental, the New Bern naval recruiting station has been told. He enlisted in the navy here on February 7.

Chief Berry says that the course of instruction given him is short but comprehensive. It is so planned as to give the student the foundation on which work in the trade rating of his choice may be built. The graduate's training is continued and rounded out by practical experience on board a ship of the fleet where the navy develops its skilled men to fill responsible positions in each specialty. The school covers practical work in typewriting, English composition, International Morse code, semaphore signaling, blinker signals, gyro compasses, bridge instruments, charts, flag signals, piloting, and the duties of the officer of the deck.

A Black Navy

NOV 3 1940

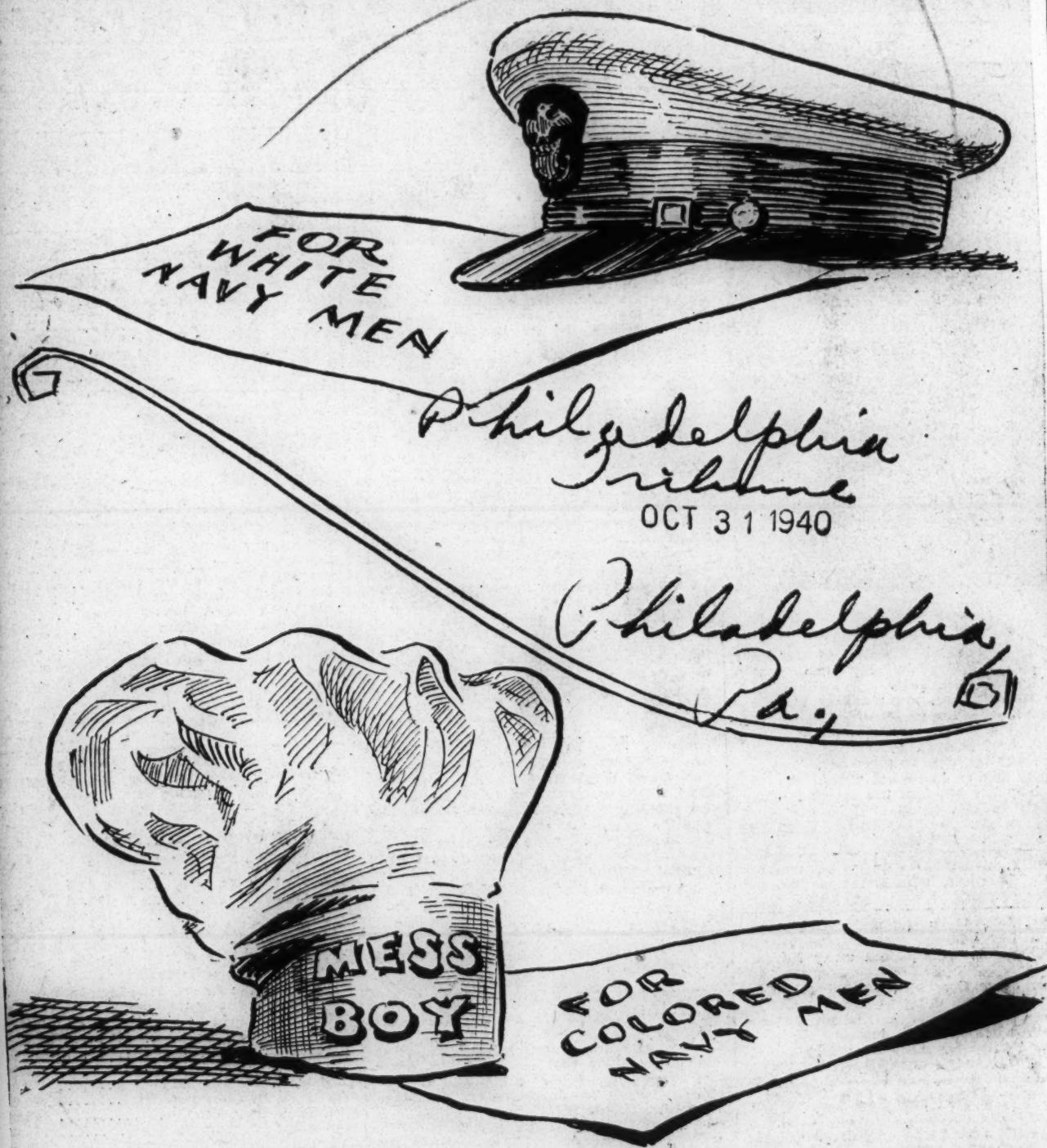
WORKING on the principle that if a little poison is bad, if taken in large quantities it is good for one's ills, the United States Government Employees association proposed to the President of the United States that it create a Black Navy that we may have colored officers in that branch of the defense program. Briefly, the association asked for a submarine, a battleship, a cruiser, a destroyer, and airplane carrier to be completely manned by Negroes. Not only that but the request called for a Negro Annapolis for training Negroes in the navy and air personnel and that it be established at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

Few Negroes will endorse such a proposal and we doubt if the association was serious in the presentation of its demands. To those who may be in favor of such it is obvious that such could lead to further discrimination even if put into effect. For what will prevent the sending of the black navy to only the most dangerous points in the event of war?

What Negroes want and are fighting for is the privilege to be treated as American citizens. Nothing more is asked. Anything less will not be accepted. We are not unmindful of the fact that there are Negroes who desire to have colored schools because they offer colored teachers. These leaders do not like an opportunity for a colored principal and to compete. They find it easier to be segregated into a school where less effort will be required to obtain the positions they desire.

What we want is an opportunity for Negro sailors to be accorded the same recognition as white sailors and that they be given the same privilege for promotion. Our fight should be thus directed and maintained in that direction.

Another Example Of New Deal Bias



We Had Uniforms Before. Are We Going to Put Up With B.V.D.'s Now?



SOUTHERN WHITE FRIEND DEPLORES NAVY CRITICISM

Dear Editor: DEC 23 1940

As a steady and sincere reader of The Pittsburgh Courier, I was shocked about the attitude your paper had taken in the unfortunate affair involving the expulsion of a group of Negro sailors of the United States Navy.

Being a resident of one of the country's largest naval cities which has a sizeable colored population, I consider myself in somewhat a position to issue an opinion on this incident. Besides for many years I have been extremely interested in the injustices committed against the Negro and in any and all problems arising which affect the colored race. It is my ambition to some day be the author of a book explaining the colored man's position in this country to my fellow-whites of America.

I must confess that I was entirely ignorant that such abhorrent intolerance was actually practiced in our great navy. Negro sailors with whom I have made acquaintance have at no time disclosed any unjust action committed against them. You can therefore realize my surprise when I first read the letter published in your paper.

Why this matter was not handled quietly—at least at first—I cannot understand. There are many Senators, many powerful clubs and institutions that would have exerted strong influence to wipe out traces of this intolerance in our navy.

But instead, your paper saw fit the front pages, insulting the honor of the navy and any high official that you could think of. The navy has and is doing a tremendous job, it must be done secretly, for patriotic Americans are not the only ones who are interested in its actions. The navy cannot have any information of any sort circulated openly for all to hear.

Most definitely these thirteen sailors should not have kept quiet, but most definitely naval officials should have heard about the dissension first and been given a

chance to quietly remedy it. Then if, and it is most unlikely, all officials to which this matter had been carried had failed to bring about a satisfactory conclusion, The Courier would have been duly justified to shout its vehement complaints for all to hear.

Friction, hate, and further intolerance is sure to result from the attitude taken by the Courier. Such statements as the following "The government wishes to pose as the great defender of Democracy. It does not want either white or colored Americans to know it is a defender of Hypocrisy" issued at this critical period in our nation's history is traitorous.

My dear sir, I am amazed at such a statement directed against a government that is at present at work assisting the English to destroy a ruthless regime that breeds intolerance wherever it penetrates. Such a statement instantly aroused the ire not only of the whites, but of countless southern Negroes. Subtle insinuations against President Roosevelt, the idol of the southern colored man, were simply misunderstood by them. No it is obvious by reactions of all races that the matter was handled in a very amateurish fashion by your paper, much to the regret of those who are interested in seeing the rights of the Negro respected and equalized.

I hope that in the future matters such as this which only destroy work that has been done to bring about harmony between Americans of both color will not arise. But this hope is only a futile one, I know. Controversies will arise, dissension is sure to show its ugly head—but harmony and peace can be had. Bitterness and hatred must be abolished and when matters do arise, they must be settled quietly and quickly so they will not in any

way affect the entire population. After all, sir, is this dissension of thirteen young colored sailors worth bringing into national prominence when their troubles are not experienced by even a small minority of colored sailors. I am confident that even now the much discussed problem will be settled when all this foolish and unnecessary publicity has died away. All that is necessary is that a mutual understanding be had by both colored and white of problems which affect us all.

Wishing you and your paper continuous success, I am,
Leonard Cohen,
Norfolk, Va.

LAUTIER RUNS UP THE SHADE: GIVES US THE LOWDOWN

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER

(Staff Correspondent)

DEC 14 1940

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12—Although a serious shortage in officer personnel exists in the Navy, the present policy of permitting colored men to serve only in the messman branch has not been relaxed.

In the annual report of the Secretary of the Navy for the fiscal year, 1940, recently made public, it is disclosed that studies indicate that some 10,000 line officers, exclusive of 2,200 short-term reserve aviation officers, will be required to man the fleet after an 11-percent expansion in its composition, authorized in June.

OFFICER PERSONNEL A MATTER OF CONCERN

Reporting to the Secretary of the Navy, Rear Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, stated that this deficiency in officer personnel remains "a matter of grave concern" and is receiving the detailed study of his bureau.

The Naval Academy is the basic source of supply of officers of the line and staff corps, excepting the medical, dental and chaplain corps. No colored appointee has ever been able to remain at the Naval Academy through the four-year course.

The problem of colored people with respect to getting colored commissioned personnel in the Navy is twofold. First, the appointment of colored youths as midshipmen must be secured. If such appointments can be obtained, it will be necessary for the President, the Secretary of the Navy, or the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation to take precautions to see that such appointees are given a fair opportunity to graduate.

Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps units are established at Yale, Harvard, Northwestern, Georgia Tech, California, Washington, University of California at Los Angeles, Tulane, Minnesota, Michigan

NO NEGRO NAVAL ROTC OR AVIATION CADETS

This program was designed to provide for rapid naval expansion during a national emergency. Its purpose is to train young college men to become officers of the Naval Reserve.

The naval R.O.T.C. student devotes about four hours a week to naval work and participates in one or more practice cruises. His studies include navigation, ordnance and gunnery, marine engineering and electricity, seamanship and communications, naval history, aviation, military and international law.

Upon completion of the course and the award of an academic degree he is eligible for a commission in the Naval Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve, or as an aviation cadet. A limited number of graduates are selected each year for permanent commissions in the Supply Corps of the regular Navy and a few undergraduates may be appointed as midshipmen at Annapolis.

Although in the last fiscal year there was a total of 1,658 enrollees in the naval R.O.T.C., not a single one was colored.

As of June 30, 545 aviation cadets were undergoing training at Pensacola. None of them was colored. Aviation cadets are commissioned ensigns in the Naval Reserve upon graduation from Pensacola and after three years of continuous service as such are eligible for promotion to lieutenant, junior grade, in the Naval Reserve.

Better To Chop Cotton All Day Than To Endure Navy Insults

Courier DEC 28 1940
So Writes Humiliated Mess Attendant From Long
Beach—Says He Was Promised a Trade, But
Only Gets Mop and Broom Instead.

Dear Editor: *Pittsburgh* DEC 28 1940
We, of the many Mess Attendants in the United States
Navy, are writing you concerning this man's outfit, known
as the Navy. We are writing to let you know how we stand
about democracy in the Navy. We of the many who left
home, joining the Navy with the
intentions of being carpenters,
shipfitters, etc., but turned out to
be "Seagoing Slaves." Due to our
color.

'Tis true, it's a fine organization
for the white man, but holds no
future for the colored because
there are branches they wish to
go into, but as for us, there's is
only one—messmen branch.

Many of us left valuable jobs to
join the Navy, thinking and being
promised that we could learn a
trade. But that was a lie. Many
of us have completed high school
and college. But there are white
boys who have come from the hill-
side cornfields and become officers.
Some of us with good educations
and from the best of families have
to be slaves because of our color.

Why can't we have our rights?
We must have our rights and be
given the opportunity to go into
other branches or freedom. We
ask you who are on the outside
to help us fight in every respect.

Please, do not forget us, we are
of the same color, so we come to
you in need. We are asking that
you help us in every way to better
the conditions of the Negro in
the Navy. We are praying that
you will take every step towards
giving us help, because if we ever
needed help it is now.

Also we ask you to tell the col-
ored youths not to go to the post-
office and sign up for the Navy,
because it is better to chop cotton
all day than to be cursed out and
take insults from officers. Such
as: (Officer to boy) "Why in the
hell didn't you shine my shoes this
morning?" (Boy) "I have been on
Liberty, Sir Officer."

(Officer) "You didn't have any
g—d—ned business on Liberty."
This is an example.

MESS ATTENDANT,
Long Beach, Calif.

HERE ARE SIX MORE 'CHAMBERMAIDS' YOU CAN FIRE. REAR ADMIRAL NIMITZ

DEC 7 1940
Last week the United States
Navy ordered the discharge of
thirteen mess attendants be-
cause they wrote The Courier
a letter to protest against dis-
crimination in the naval ser-
vice.

Such discrimination is a
plain violation of provisions in
the Federal Constitution. The
First Amendment to the Con-
stitution guarantees freedom
of speech and the right of the
people to petition the Govern-
ment for redress of grievances.

The naval authorities deny
its mess attendants that right.
The Fourteenth Amendment
to the Constitution forbids any
State "to make or enforce any
law which shall abridge the
privileges or immunities of
citizens of the United States."

But the United States Navy
sets up its own rules which
abridge the privileges of black
Americans by restricting them
to the lowest grade of service.

This week, The Courier pre-
sents the naval authorities
with another letter and the
names of more mess attend-
ants who are protesting
against the abridgment of
their privileges. These are the
mess attendants of the U.S.S.
Davis.

When the mess attendants
of the U.S.S. Davis wrote the
following letter, they knew
that the mess attendants
aboard the Philadelphia were
prisoners at large.

They did not know they had been
fired from the Navy. But the
stone of their letter indicates that
they are willing to make a sacri-
fice, whatever it is, to correct the
evils of discrimination in the Navy.
The letter follows:

San Diego, Cal.
Nov. 24, 1940.

Dear Editor:
Since other mess attendants
of the U. S. Navy are putting
up such a stiff fight for equal-
ity, we feel it only right for
us, the mess attendants of the
U.S.S. Davis (395) to do our
share. We have a few things
to tell that are not generally
known by the outside world.

About the time this ship was
commissioned in Boston, 1938,
we were assigned our next
sleeping quarters. Being a
small ship (1,850 tons), there
were no separate compart-
ments for the mess attendants.
We had to sleep in the same
compartment with our newly-
found white shipmates.

To our amazement we found
that we were all huddled in a
corner to ourselves. We were
separated by a piece of canvas.

That was the first step to-
ward discrimination on a brand
new ship built with American
Negro dollars.

DEC 7 1940
The next shock came in
Brazil. We were invited to
visit a South American ship
by the Negro petty officers in
the Brazilian Navy. We were
denied permission to leave the
ship because our officers were
having guests and we were
needed to serve them.

In Barbados, with a popula-
tion 90 per cent Negro, we were
refused permission to go to a
party given by the Negroes of
Barbados for the visiting Amer-

ican sailors. However, our
white shipmates were allowed
to go.

Our first job is to wash paint-
work, shine the officers' shoes
and shine the brass-work.
After this it is about time to
serve breakfast. While we are
serving, our white shipmates
are eating theirs. When they
finish they can get about a
half an hour's rest. When we
finish serving, it is time to start
work again. In short, when-
ever it's time to quit work it
is time for us to start serving
officers. We are constantly on
our feet.

One of us complained to the
captain when we were ordered
to scrub the wardroom carpet
at seven p.m.—(working hours
are supposedly from 6 a.m. to
4 p.m.). When he said he

didn't like it, the captain asked,
"You don't like the way I am
running things?" He replied,
"No sir, I don't." This was our
last day in Honolulu. Five days
later when we arrived in Mare
Island, Cal., the man was sent
to the brig for a long term.

We have battle stations like
everyone else. We fight should-
er to shoulder with our white
shipmates. If they die, we die,
so why are we segregated in
our work?

On another occasion one of
the men called the engine room
for the chief engineer officer.
A petty officer answered the
phone. When he found out
that it was a mess attendant
ringing the phone, he cursed
him. Naturally, the mess at-
tendant cursed him back. An
officer (from Mississippi) over-
heard him and called the mess
attendant to his room and told
him, "You know if you were

down South you would prob-
ably have been shot."

Some jobs that are supposed
to be the job of a seaman they
call "an all hands evolution,"
so we have to pitch in and
help, but they always let us
quit in time to wash up and
serve the officers. On several
occasions the word "nigger"
has been used in our presence
and the presence of officers.
Our hands are tied. If we
fight in the presence of an
officer we have lost the fight
one way or the other. Since
it was said in his presence,
there's no use to report it.

Despite the work we do, it
is not appreciated. To prove
it, the captain told one of the
mess attendants that on the
outside he could get a man to
do twice the work he was doing
for half the pay he was get-
ting. His pay at the time was
\$36 per month. Before now,
we were afraid of the conse-
quences if we fought naval dis-
crimination, but now that we
have outside help which has
given us new hope, we are pre-
pared and determined to do
our part on the inside to the
last man. We sincerely hope
that until the Negro is given
other ratings that the Negro
youth of America will cease to
enlist in the U. S. Navy. We
appreciate the splendid work
being done in our behalf on
the outside.

Sincerely yours,
THE MESS ATTENDANTS
OF THE U.S.S. DAVIS (395).

J. M. PELK,
J. D. JONES,
L. LATIMORE,
J. L. BROWN,
RAYMOND BROWN,
C. V. HAWKINS.

13 MESSMEN ON U. S. S. PHILADELPHIA MADE "MISTAKE" BY WRITING THEIR SIDE OF STORY AND SIGNING NAMES

DEC 7 1940

By P. L. PRATTIS

DEC 7 1940

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—If the Navy mistreats you or discriminates against you because of your color, you must tell it to the Navy, thirteen messmen on board the U.S.S. Philadelphia learned last Wednesday when orders were issued from the Bureau of Navigation, this city, for their immediate undesirable discharge.

These thirteen messmen who have been fired from the Navy are thirteen of the fifteen who signed a

letter complaining against discrimination which was published in the October 5 issue of The Courier.

Of the two others, one is in jail and the other is in the hospital.

This information was given The Courier last Thursday afternoon after Captain Daniel J. Callaghan, naval aide to President Roosevelt, had arranged for the writer to interview Rear Admiral C. W. Nimitz, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department.

Admiral Nimitz produced a dossier which contained the complete records of the mess attendants on the Philadelphia who had written The Courier.

Announcement by him of the action which had been taken in reference to the boys indicated speedy action by naval authorities.

November 15, Admiral Nimitz had written Miss Dorothy E. Bascom, Framingham, Massachusetts:

"This Bureau has received no reports indicating that any of the men concerned have been disciplined for communicating with the Pittsburgh Courier."

However, Thursday, November 28, thirteen days later, Admiral Nimitz was able to show the writer that, so far as the Navy is concerned, the case of these boys has been disposed of.

By last Thursday, November 28, Admiral Nimitz not only had the personnel record of each of the mess attendants involved on his desk, but also written statements from each boy, obtained by the commander of the Philadelphia, the recommendation of the ship's commander and the orders disposing of the case.

The Bureau of Navigation is charged with manning all ships in the Navy.

BOYS TELL WHY THEY SIGNED LETTER

Admiral Nimitz admitted to this writer that of the fifteen boys who signed the letter in The Courier,

two had been placed in the brig and thirteen had been made prisoners at large after the commanding officer of the ship had seen the letter published in The Courier. The commanding officer required each boy to draw up and sign a statement to tell why he had signed the letter.

After these statements were in his possession, the commanding officer of the ship had charges preferred against the boys for violation of sub-paragraph seven of article eight of chapter one of the Articles of War, which reads:

"Or joins in or abets any combination to weaken the lawful authority of or to lessen the respect due to his commanding officer."

ATTENDANTS WERE INDICTED ON TWO COUNTS

Under this section, the mess attendants who had complained because they were discriminated against, were "indicted" on two counts:

First, for joining and abetting a combination to weaken the lawful authority of or to lessen the respect due their commanding officer, and,

Second, for conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline.

The ship's commanding officer recommended to the Navy Department that the boys be court-

martialed for the above violations.

Admiral Nimitz, however, explained to the writer that the recommendation for discharge was ignored because the naval authorities did not believe the element of disloyalty was involved in the action which the mess attendants took.

For that reason, orders were issued last Wednesday that the thirteen boys be transferred to the receiving station nearest their homes and here be given "undesirable" discharges.

BOYS WERE DISCHARGED FOR GOOD OF THE SERVICE

An "undesirable" discharge, unlike a dishonorable discharge, does not deprive the man discharged of his civil rights. It is a discharge "for the good of the service."

It means that the boys have been fired and that they can't work in the Navy any more.

This is the method which the Navy has used to dispose of a situation for which the naval authorities themselves are to blame.

These boys complained because, as Negroes, they are jim-crowed and restricted to one class of service in the Navy. They know the Navy does not belong to white boys any more than it does to black boys.

But, because SOME white boys

Negroes and "Defense"

NO DOUBT the naval officers who had thirteen Negro messmen of the USS Philadelphia "undesirably discharged" for protesting anti-Negro discrimination, thought to teach all Negroes in the Navy a "good lesson." And perhaps they did—but not the sort of lesson intended. Exactly the same "crime" has now been committed by six Negro messmen of the USS Davis: a letter of protest to the Pittsburgh Courier, Negro newspaper, detailing instances of segregation and petty meanness on the part of white officers. "We fight shoulder to shoulder with our white shipmates," the writers point out. "If they die, we die, so why are we segregated in our work?"

DEC 24 1940

The same question has been raised and answered in rather curious fashion by Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a Saturday Evening Post article, issue of December 16. Mr. White catalogs all the ugly discriminations against his race in our armed forces, but tells us the Negro's "hope" is that President Roosevelt will do something about it. Roosevelt!—who himself issued the order continuing the policy of segregation in army and navy. According to Mr. White, American Negroes are eager to participate fully in the defense of this country against "either Hitler or Stalin." The coupling of these names, a fantastic distortion in any case, is especially preposterous here. Hitler treats Negroes as he treats Jews—and he treats Jews little worse than America's rulers treat Negroes. In the land of socialism, as any Negro who has been there can tell Mr. White, racial discrimination (economic, political, or social) is punishable as a crime.

PERSECUTION

IS THE NAVY bigger than the Constitution-

That is the question Negro mess attendants in the United States Navy must be asking themselves?

The Constitution guarantees the right of people to peacefully assemble, to petition the government for a redress of grievances, freedom of speech and freedom of the press. That is what the Constitution guarantees.

What the Navy, on the other hand, says in effect, to Negro mess attendants, is: "We're going to call you sailors but you'll actually be cooks and scullions, and if you don't like the abuse we give you there's nothing you can do about it because if you protest we'll arrest you and charge you with violating the Acts of War, court-martial you and either discharge you from the service or send you to jail for a long time."

The above is just what happened recently following the publication in the Pittsburgh Courier of letters of protest of Negro messmen against the discriminatory practices in the U. S. Navy. They not only protested publicly but they signed their names to the letters. Immediately the Navy arrested the letter writers and charged the with violating sub-paragraph 7 of Article 8 of Chapter 1 of the Articles of War, which reads: "Or joins in or abets any combination to weaken the lawful authority of or to lessen the respect due to his commanding officer."

Another charge was lodged against them, in addition to the above, that of "conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline."

There were 15 Negroes originally in the case and to date thirteen of them have been kicked out of the Navy with undesirable discharges and the other two are still being held, probably for more drastic action.

It is the right of every man to protest an injustice, whether it be in the Army, Navy or any branch of government service, or whether it be in civil life. If the Navy will treat Negroes as men, there will be no cause for letters of protest to be written. Maybe someone ought to tell our Navy that there is a Constitution.

U. S. NAVY

DEC 21 1940

The unceremonious dismissal of 13 messmen from the U. S. Navy, affords a timely opportunity to proponents of national unity to inquire vigorously into the type of democracy practiced by this branch of the service.

The mess attendants were discharged last week upon orders issued from the Bureau of Navigation, following the publication of a letter in which they complained of unbearable discrimination.

While they might have committed an infraction of the rules in exposing the injustices to which they had been subjected, their guilt certainly did not warrant so drastic a measure as immediate expulsion. The haste with which this harsh disciplinary action was invoked has accentuated and advertised the intolerant attitude of navy officials toward Negroes in the service.

The men doubtless had complained to their superior officers of the conditions that formed the context of their published letter. It is evident that the failure of the proper authorities to remedy an undesirable situation led to the necessity of airing publicly the grievances of the attendants.

Everyone knows that the navy is the last place where justice is likely to be given to Negroes who are assigned the lowest grade, especially when they are registering protests against insufferable conditions. It seems to us that they were purposely forced into the alternative of publicising their grievances by the very indifference of the superior officers.

If the conditions complained of exist, and we have no doubt that they do exist, naval authorities, out of common human decency, should have remedied them.

The decision to dismiss the messmen and allow the matter to reach the proportion of a public scandal is meant to intimidate Negroes already in the navy while discouraging others from joining the service.

Those who are crying for national unity cannot find a more propitious occasion in which to advance that unity than this; else they should stop prating. Why should the navy be allowed to violate every principle of the democracy upon which stands the country which it aims to protect?

What is it about the U. S. Navy that is so sacred that a black citizen cannot aspire to its lofty ranks? If our national

government truly wants unity on a democratic basis, it must remove those conditions that foster discrimination and that reduce the citizenship of its black people to a mere theory.

RACE IS AROUSED OVER "FIRING" OF MESS ATTENDANTS

DEC 14 1940

"STAY OUT OF THE NAVY" is the steady refrain which is reaching The Courier in letters and wires as a result of the disclosure last week that 13 mess attendants on the U.S.S. Philadelphia had been fired because they protested against discrimination.

From men, in and out of the Navy, the story is the same.

"I would like you to know that I for one would like you to keep on fighting for the colored sailors' rights," wrote Willard Taylor of the U.S.S. Bridge, stationed off San Diego, Calif.

"If I had known that I would have to shine shoes, brush clothes and wait on men, hand and foot, I would have preferred staying at home."

Another youth, stationed aboard the U. S. S. Cumberland at Annapolis, who signs himself "The Two-X Man," regrets, now that he is in the Navy, that he did not listen to his mother before he enlisted. He writes:

"I want to express my thoughts to you about the United States Navy. It is no place for a colored man, so I beg you colored boys to stay out of the United States Navy. We work from early in the morning until late at night."

"I only wish I had listened to my mother and stayed at home."

"The Navy would be all right if a colored man's rating would change. The only thing a colored man can be in the Navy is a mess attendant and you know there is no good in slinging chow all your life."

"If I could be a midshipman, it would be all right, but feeding these midshipmen is hell."

"I do hope some one will change the ratings of this Navy. This is plain slavery."

"There are Filipinos going to the Naval Academy where we should be going."

"So, colored boys/ please stay out of this damned white man's Navy. It doesn't mean a thing to you. Stay at home because you won't be anything but an underdog all your days if you join the Navy."

"I do hope the President sees this too. I want him to know some one in his Navy is tired of

his way of doing and hopes him plenty of BAD LUCK!"

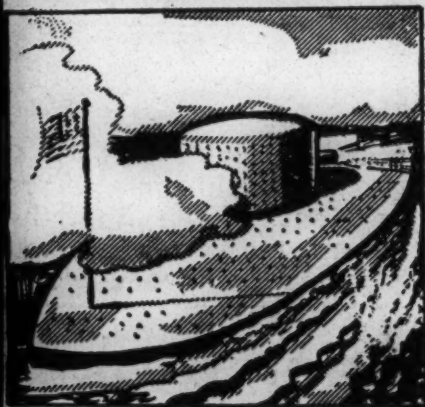
Last week, The Courier's New York correspondent, Morgen Jensen, succeeding in locating one of the 13 men fired from the Philadelphia.

He learned that the men fired included:

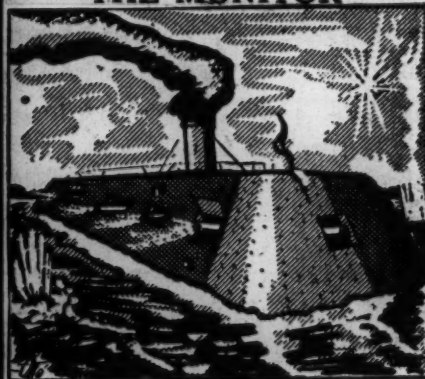
First-class mess attendants, Byron Cecil Johnson, Jesse Willard Watford and Shannon Goodwin; second-class mess attendant L. Hansbrough; third-class mess attendants Floyd Owens, Ernest Bosley, J. E. Ponder, J. W. Ponder, Robert Turner, Arvah Perry Cooper, G. E. Rice, Otto Robinson, J. H. Porter and Floyd St. Clair.

According to this informant, Johnson is at present assigned to the U. S. S. Seattle, a receiving vessel, located at Brooklyn Navy Yard; Goodwin, Hansbrough, Owens, the Ponder brothers, Bosley, Turner and St. Clair are detailed to a receiving ship at Norfolk, Va.; Watford is possibly in a hospital brig in Honolulu and Cooper is supposedly in a brig at San Francisco; Rice is believed to be held at San Diego, Calif., Porter on a receiving ship at Washington, D. C., and the location of Robinson is unknown.

Whose Navy Is it—the Lily-Whites' or Ours?



THE MONITOR



THE MERRIMAC

NOV 30 1940

A reader asks should we keep on trying to enlist in the United States Navy since navy officials are so prejudiced and are using all the power of their office to exclude colored men except as messmen.

After American
Almost by chance a few weeks ago, we printed an excerpt from Herbert Aptheker's story of the American Revolution in which he listed twelve ships which from 1776 to 1789 had

colored seamen, fighters, and even colored pilots.

Baltimore, Md.
Aptheker quoted General George Washington's letter to Major Henry Lee, July 26, 1779, in which he granted a "warrant of \$1,000 promised the Negro pilots."

md.
Response to this article came from two quarters. Louis Lautier in Wash-

ington uncovered the fact that one-fourth of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry's crew, which won the battle of Lake Erie in 1813, were colored. This was the major naval engagement of this war and insured American control of Lake Erie and freedom to invade Canada. It also forestalled any cession of territory in the Northwest to Great Britain in the treaty of peace.

* * * NOV 30 1940

In last week's AFRO, Lydia Brown carried on with a story from Newport, R.I., Commodore Perry's birthplace, in which she says that Commodore Perry himself was one-eighth colored.

As proof, she cited a letter from Commodore Chauncey, Perry's superior officer, to Perry himself, and she pointed out that the Hazard Mills, belonging to the Perry family at Peacedale, were founded by Perry's colored grandfather.

After American
So much for the Wars of 1776 and 1812. Now as to the Civil War of 1861, the AFRO prints this week the photo of a gunner on the first United States armored warship, the Monitor, which defeated the Merrimac in the celebrated battle in Hampton Roads.

Volume II of the Roster of Maryland Volunteers, War of 1861-65, gives the names of 627 colored men who served as volunteers on United States warships. In the list are 2 "seamen," 11 "ordinary seamen," 5 "first-class boys," and 608 "landsmen."

These were not all of the Maryland colored sailors

on United States ships at that time, as the roster does not list sailors by race, and present-day jim crow did not prevail. The only way we could determine the above 627 were colored was the fact that they were transferred to the navy from the U.S.C.T. (United States Colored Troops).

Colored sailors already in the navy and those who volunteered directly for naval service cannot be identified.

If 627 were from Maryland alone, the list of colored sailors who came from all the other States in the Union must have run into the thousands.

Baltimore, Md.
To get back to our reader's question as to what we shall do about jim crow in the United States Navy. It would appear that we should just learn by heart these words of Commodore Chauncey before the battle of Lake Erie, September 10, 1813. Here they are:

"... I have yet to learn that the color of the skin or the cut or trimming of the coat can affect a man's qualifications or usefulness. ... I have nearly fifty blacks on board of this ship [his own, the Pike] and many of them are among my best men."

There might be other texts we could take or other mottos we could cite, but this one covers the ground.

We are the same blacks today that we were in 1776 and 1812 when we helped to win the independence of this republic.

The navy has no glory and no tradition aside from that earned with our blood and sweat. The navy is ours, by every right that any other citizen can claim it.

The only question which remains is, shall we hang back and keep silent in the face of the present-day lily-whites who seek to rob us of our birthright?

We have a right to fill any position in the United States Navy for which we can qualify. We have a right to demand that the 100 percenters, the Ku Klux, and the intolerants who seek to limit us to the messman's branch of the service get out, for there isn't a decent, intelligent, patriotic person, black or white, in the country today who can defend any other policy.

Mother Pleads For Son Held In Brig By Navy

NEW YORK—(S N S)—The inhuman action of Navy Department officials in imprisoning nine Negro Navy messmen in October because the latter protested against being subjected to intolerable conditions of discrimination reveals itself in the plea sent out by the mother of one of the boys to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urging the Association to help her "in getting my son freedom again."

In an appealing letter, to Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, the mother of one of the messmen, writing from her home in a small town tells the story of how the Navy's treatment of her son has affected her. A teacher in the local school system, she has already given one son to the Navy. "He died in 1937," she says, "while still in service."

Fearful that her second son may go insane, as a result of his imprisonment aboard ship, the mother asked the NAACP to push investigation of the case, which has been widely publicized by the Pittsburgh Courier. The text of her letter which was sent to the NAACP and the Courier follows:

"Please, help me in getting my son freedom again on board (ship). Every since October when he and others had published in the Courier how they are being treated in Service, he has been confined and denied privileges. He has been transferred from the U.S.S. Philadelphia to the U.S.S. Receiving Ship, San Francisco, California. But my son is still in the brig and I am worried over the situation because I believe it will affect him mentally and physically."

HAD GOOD RECORD

"He enlisted in Brooklyn nearly four years ago, and so far has never had or given any trouble, to be punished like this, and I don't feel that he and the others are being treated just right. I had a son to die in the Navy in 1937, and now for this to happen it has deeply affected me. Will you please in-

NAVY LISTS 4,753 FOREIGN-BORN Men For Fleet

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3—(P)—A Navy Department report showed Wednesday that except for the Philippines, Canada and Guam, Germany furnished more foreign-born enlisted men in the navy than any other country.

Italy followed closely behind Germany. Both showed increases during the fiscal year, 1940, when there were 4,753 foreign-born men in the service as compared with 134,801 native born enlisted men.

The Philippines led the list of foreign born with 1,878, a decrease of 115 from the previous year. Canada provided 611, an increase of 122; and Guam 557, an increase of 152.

Germany's total of 231 was an increase of 48 over the previous year; Italy 218, an increase of 53. Following were China with 150, no change; England, 148, an increase of 25; Samoa 88, increase of five; Scotland 86, an increase of 17, and Austria 72, an increase of one.

These countries accounted for 4,039 of the foreign-born in the service.

New York led all states in the number of native born enlisted men with 7,766. Others in order were Pennsylvania, 6,910; Texas, 6,616; Illinois, 5,918; Iowa, 5,613; Missouri, 5,400; Ohio, 5,331; North Carolina 5,202; Massachusetts, 5,102; California, 4,650; Tennessee, 4,373; Alabama, 3,883; Kentucky, 3,869; Georgia, 3,863; Arkansas, 3,711, and Michigan, 3,444. These 16 states furnished 81,651 of the 134,801 total native born enlisted men.

REDMOND ASKS CIVILIAN AIDE IN U. S. NAVY

President Urged To Take Action

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 12—(ANP)—That the appointment of a Negro as civilian aide to the secretary

of the navy may go far towards helping keep the Negro in his traditional role of "never a traitor to the American cause," was set forth in a communication mailed Monday to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt by Atty. Sidney Redmond, president of the National Bar association.

"This action on your part," Atty. Redmond stated in his message to President Roosevelt, "will show Negroes in a forceful manner that our armed forces are open equally to all rather than to certain ones."

"It may be interesting to call to your attention the fact that the only Negro in St. Louis, I know of, who refused to register, was one who had been rejected as a volunteer in the navy and for that reason thought it was unnecessary. His ignorance was no excuse, but it is indicative."

Hastie Appointment Cited

Praise was given to President Roosevelt, on behalf of the National Bar association, for the recent appointment of Judge William M. Hastie as civilian aide to the secretary of war.

"We are in hearty accord with your national defense program but if it is to be really effective we must have national unity and that cannot be realized if a large racial group is neglected and discriminated against," the letter said.

"The treatment accorded colored people by the United States navy is un-American and everything but democratic. There is no better time than the present to end this national disgrace and institute for our own country that which we are trying to afford those across the ocean."

President Redmond expressed the opinion that the action of President Roosevelt in appointing a Negro as civilian aide to the secretary of the navy will, at least, be a step in the right direction.

Navy Wants Race Seamen, But Only For Chambermaid, Galley Service

SAN FRANCISCO—(CNA)

—Jim-Crowism in the United States Navy was given a local angle this week with the appearance of free advertisements in the San Francisco Chronicle calling upon Negro youths, 17 to 28, to enlist as mess attendants in the naval reserve "at \$21 a month with uniforms and subsistence."

The ads gave new emphasis to the complaint of Negro seamen that despite any talent or efficiency they may show, they cannot rise above the menial job of officers' mess attendant where they are at the mercy of the whims and petty spite of white naval officers, many of whom come from southern states.

Eighteen Navy messmen are now facing disciplinary action because they spoke up against the discrimination and abuse to which they were subjected.

Revels Cayton, local Negro C.I.

leader, secretary of the Maritime Federation District Council for the Bay Area, was caustic about the Chronicle advertisement which asked for "willing" Negro youths to enlist.

"Does willing mean willing to play Uncle Tom to Simon Legree?" he demanded. "The case of the Philadelphia Negro messmen indicates this is Navy policy, and that as far as the Negro people are concerned national defense means militarized Jim-Crowism for them."

As a result of the case of the 18 Philadelphia messmen, attention has been forced on the fact that Negroes in the Navy cannot obtain even petty officer's ratings, are barred from instruction in engineering, gunnery, radio, electricity, carpentry, aviation, metalsmithing and other trades open to white enlisted men.

There is gross discrimination, too, in the matter of wages, white enlisted men getting \$36 a month at the end of three months' training, and \$54 a month at the end of the first year, while Negro youths, accepted only as messmen, continue to draw \$21 a month no matter how long they have been in the service.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN THE ARMY, NAVY

PEOPLE CANNOT SURRENDER FREEDOM EVEN TO SECURE NEW EFFICIENCY

DEC 28 1940

By W. ROBERT MING Jr.

DEC 28 1940

Professor in the School of Law, Howard University

THE creation of a gigantic peacetime Army presents the country with a real clash between the ideologies of freedom and regimentation. Discipline, obedience—blind and unswerving obedience—to orders and complete conformity to a pattern of conduct fixed by the chief officers is the foundation of army forces the world over. Those of the United States are no exception, and the country may well be proud of the discipline of its Army and Navy from the time that its soldiers starved and froze and died in the Revolution down to the present.

But certainly no American steeped in the tradition of freedom, proud of his heritage of liberty and continuously striving to adjust the institutions of government to that democratic framework would consider regimentation of the type practiced in the armed forces a desirable form for our every-day lives. The fundamental differences between a totalitarian system and a democracy is the extent to which the members of a free society may exercise their individual will; in short, the amount of freedom and liberty which the individual actually has.

**MUST HAVE SAFEGUARDS
TO PREVENT ABUSES**

Even in a period of national emergency and with great pressure for carrying out plans for national defense, we must examine carefully the powers which we delegate to government and we must be sure that adequate safeguards and controls are provided



to prevent abuses and excesses in the exercise of those powers. Careful scrutiny of legislation, executive and administrative action, and of the decisions of our courts, and comparison of all these with our collective ideas of the rights of free men is imperative since eternal vigilance is the price we must pay for the retention of our liberty.

Such vigilance and continued watchfulness is possible only if the right of free public discussion of all of our problems is preserved to each of us. By all means available for the communication of facts and ideas, the press, the radio, the pulpit, the classroom, the open forum, all of us must be free to voice our opinions with regard to the issues which confront our country.

The four million men who are on the verge of induction into the Army and Navy have, under the Articles of War, no such right, as witness the punishment meted out to the mess-attendants on the U.S.S. Philadelphia.

The justification pleaded for this rule of the armed forces is the necessity for the prevention of

mutiny and the maintenance of discipline. None of us would quarrel with the efforts of the Army and Navy to perfect their discipline, to bolster the morale of the members of its forces.

But every one of us must insist to the utmost on the rights which we as members of a democratic society have to exercise control over government in all its branches, including the Army and the Navy.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH SAME IN PEACE AND WAR

From time to time it has been asserted that the powers of government are, by necessary implication, extended in time of war or other national emergency. The Supreme Court of the United States has been faced with this specific question in several cases and it appears clear that some of the powers of government, at least, are necessarily expanded during an emergency. But war does not broaden the power of government to interfere with the right of free public discussion. Mr. Justice Brandeis thought that:

"The Constitutional right of free speech has been declared to be the same in peace and in war. In peace, too, men may differ widely as to what loyalty to our country demands; an intolerant majority swayed by passion or by fear may be prone in the future as it has often been in the past, to stamp as disloyal opinions with

which it disagrees."

Certainly in a period of arming for national defense, short of war, there can be no justification for curtailment of the right of free speech, either in the Army or out of it.

SUGGESTS REVIEWS BY CIVIL COURTS

Practical solution of this problem created by the conflict between Army regimentation and civil liberty is possible. One simple device to secure the desired end would be to provide for review by civil courts of actions by courts-martial or punishments inflicted on members of the armed forces by officers.

The placing of a large number of men under the control of the Army for at least a year with the resulting change in pattern of conduct to which these selectees must conform creates a serious problem as to the fairness of subjecting these men to the harsh requirements and severe punishments of military law.

In addition, the rights of these selectees, ephemeral though it be, to regain their former jobs at the termination of the training period depends upon their procuring a certificate indicating satisfactory completion of the training course. In other words, not only are these selectees subject to military law during the period when they are actually in camp, but their return

to civil status does not end the effects of military discipline.

If they have run afoul of the Articles of War or the commands of their superiors it may well be that it will be impossible for them to return to their former civilian employment. This possibility of dual punishment places in the hands of the officers of this great peace time army tremendous power without adequate controls and safeguards for the protection of the selectees.

OFFICERS MUST REALIZE RESPONSIBILITY

The officers of the armed forces must be made to realize the tremendous responsibility which is theirs, for in any society the delegation of power carries with it a correlative responsibility. The officers must exercise the power which has been given them with a full regard to the institutions and political theory of our democracy. Review of their actions by the civil courts, the testing of the exercise of power by the armed forces against the pattern of the Constitution of the United States would provide a means of control; a means of preventing abuses of power by the Army.

The history of the Negro in the armed forces of the United States, particularly in recent years, gives rise to serious concern with respect to the exercise of these great powers over

Negro selectees. In those parts of the United States where Negroes are excluded from voting serious problems are created by arbitrary exercise of power by civil authorities. Unless checks and balances on the power of the Army officers are provided, Negroes in the armed forces will be in the same position as Negroes in most parts of the South; forced to accept that which is given them, and to suffer that which is taken away from them, without any means of redress or recourse.

The time to provide for the protection of our liberties is in the period when they are threatened, not in the period when the deprivation is complete. Steps and measures must be taken now by all persons and organizations who subscribe to the democratic way of life in order that our institutions may be preserved for all of us.

Proponents of militarism, those front runners of fascist ideology, often seek to cloak their attempt at regimentation of all of us by the device of accustoming a num-

ber of us to complete regimentation, thereby inuring us to denials of liberty. Moreover, they utter invidious comparisons of the so-called efficiency and effectiveness of disciplined states with those where individuals initiative and free voluntary action is secured. Put another way, the argument runs that a nation can act more expeditiously if some person or

group has the power to get things done simply by ordering them done. They may come to believe even more than they believe the very foundations of their own conduct that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas—that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which

they may come to believe even more than they believe the very foundations of their own conduct that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas—that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which

they may come to believe even more than they believe the very foundations of their own conduct that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas—that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which

FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN THE ARMY, NAVY

PEOPLE CANNOT SURRENDER FREEDOM EVEN TO SECURE NEW EFFICIENCY

By W. ROBERT MING JR.
Professor in the School of Law, Howard University

DEC 28 1940

THE creation of a gigantic peacetime Army presents the country with a real clash between the ideologies of freedom and regimentation. Discipline, obedience—blind and unswerving obedience—to orders and complete conformity to a pattern of conduct fixed by the chief officers is the foundation of army forces the world over. Those of the United States are no exception, and the country may well be proud of the discipline of its Army and Navy from the time that its soldiers starved and froze and died in the Revolution down to the present.

But certainly no American steeped in the tradition of freedom, proud of his heritage of liberty and continuously striving to adjust the institutions of government to that democratic framework would consider regimentation of the type practiced in the armed forces a desirable form for our every-day lives. The fundamental differences between a totalitarian system and a democracy is the extent to which the members of a free society may exercise their individual will; in short, the amount of freedom and liberty which the individual actually has.

**MUST HAVE SAFEGUARDS
TO PREVENT ABUSES**

Even in a period of national emergency and with great pressure for carrying out plans for national defense, we must examine carefully the powers which we delegate to government and we must be sure that adequate safeguards and controls are provided

to prevent abuses and excesses in the exercise of those powers. Careful scrutiny of legislation, executive and administrative action, and of the decisions of our courts, and comparison of all these with our collective ideas of the rights of free men is imperative since eternal vigilance is the price we must pay for the retention of our liberty. Such vigilance and continued watchfulness is possible only if the right of free public discussion of all of our problems is preserved to each of us. By all means available for the communication of facts and ideas, the press, the radio, the pulpit, the classroom, the open forum, all of us must be free to voice our opinions with regard to the issues which confront our country.

The four million men who are on the verge of induction into the Army and Navy have, under the Articles of War, no such right, as witness the punishment meted out to the mess-attendants on the U.S.S. Philadelphia. The justification pleaded for this rule of the armed forces is the necessity for the prevention of mutiny and the maintenance of discipline. None of us would quarrel with the efforts of the Army and Navy to perfect their discipline, to bolster the morale of the members of its forces. But every one of us must insist to the utmost on the rights which we as members of a democratic society have to exercise control over government in all its branches, including the Army and the Navy.

**FREEDOM OF SPEECH
SAME IN PEACE AND WAR**

From time to time it has been asserted that the powers of government are, by necessary implication, extended in time of war or other national emergency. The Supreme Court of the United States has been faced with this specific question in several cases and it appears clear that some of the powers of government, at least, are necessarily expanded during an emergency. But war does not broaden the power of government to interfere with the right of free public discussion. Mr. Justice Brandeis thought that:

"The Constitutional right of free speech has been declared to be the same in peace and in war. In peace, too, men may differ widely as to what loyalty to our country demands; an intolerant majority swayed by passion or by fear may be prone in the future to stamp as disloyal opinions with

which it disagrees." Certainly in a period of arming for national defense, short of war, there can be no justification for curtailment of the right of free speech other in the Army or out of it.

**SUGGESTS REVIEWS
BY CIVIL COURTS**

Practical solution of this problem created by the conflict between Army regimentation and civil liberty is possible. One simple device to secure the desired end would be to provide for review by civil courts of actions by courts-martial or punishments inflicted on members of the armed forces by officers. The placing of a large number of men under the control of the Army for at least a year with the resulting change in pattern of conduct to which these selectees must conform, is a serious problem, as to the fairness of subjecting these men to the harsh requirements and severe punishments of military law.

In addition, the rights of these selectees, ephemeral enough it be, to regain their former jobs at the termination of the training period depends upon their procuring a certificate indicating satisfactory completion of the training course. In other words, not only are these selectees subject to military law during the period when they are actually in camp, but their return

to civil status does not end the effects of military discipline. If they have run afoul of the Articles of War or the commands of their superiors it may well be that it will be impossible for them to return to their former civilian employment. This possibility of dual punishment places in the hands of the officers of this great peace time army tremendous power without adequate controls and safeguards for the protection of the selectees.

**OFFICERS MUST
REALIZE RESPONSIBILITY**

The officers of the armed forces must be made to realize the tremendous responsibility which is theirs, for in any society the delegation of power carries with it a correlative responsibility. The officers must exercise this power which has been given them with a full regard to the institutions and political theory of our democracy. Review of their actions by the civil courts, the testing of the exercise of power by the armed forces against the pattern of the Constitution of the United States would provide a means of control; a means of preventing abuses of power by the Army.

The history of the Negro in the armed forces of the United States, particularly in recent years, gives rise to serious concerns with respect to the exercise of these great powers over Negro selectees. In those parts of the United States where Negroes are excluded from voting serious problems are created by arbitrary exercise of power by civil authorities. Unless checks and balances on the power of the Army officers are provided, Negroes in the armed forces will be in the same position as Negroes in most parts of the South; forced to accept that which is given them, and to suffer that which is taken away from them, without any means of redress or recourse.

The time to provide for the protection of our liberties is in the period when they are threatened, not in the period when the deprivation is complete. Steps and measures must be taken now by all persons and organizations who subscribe to the democratic way of life in order that our institutions may be preserved for all of us.

Proponents of militarism, those right runners of fascist ideology, often seek to cloak their attempt at regimentation of all of us by the device of accustoming a num-

ber of us to complete regimentation, thereby inuring us to denials of liberty. Moreover, they utter invidious comparisons of the so-called efficiency and effectiveness of disciplined states with those where individuals initiative and free voluntary action is secured. Put another way, the argument runs that a nation can act more expeditiously if some person or

group has the power to get things done simply by ordering them done.

**SACRIFICE FREEDOM
FOR EFFICIENCY**

In the first place that assumption is not well founded. But let the late great Justice Holmes answer it:

DEC 28 1940

"But when men have realized that time has upset many fight-

ing ratios, they may come to believe even more than they believe the very foundations of their own conduct that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas—that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which

their wishes safely can be carried out. That at any rate is the theory of our Constitution." Under the guise of effectuating national defense these persons, and unfortunately there are many, would have us sacrifice our dearly won freedom to create an alleged efficiency. The history books are replete with examples which prove that liberty is won only by those

who are prepared to fight for it. But the books likewise are filled with records of people deluded into relinquishing their freedom in order to make war, only to find control of their government seized by those who by exercise of the powers given them by the people later prevented the reacquisition of rights previously enjoyed.

NATIONAL DEFENSE MUST GO FORWARD

We, in the United States, must not fall into that category. Preparations for national defense must go forward. Such restraints on our freedom as may be necessary in order to achieve a state of national preparedness we will suffer, as in the past. We have permitted regulation where it was necessary for the public good. But only by the maintenance of our rights of free speech, freedom of press, of religion, of public assembly, of the right to petition the government for redress of grievances, of trial by jury and of security in our homes from unreasonable searches and seizures can we maintain the American way of life.

Finally we Negroes must make it clear that full and complete protection for our civil liberties is necessary to the continuation of the American democracy, and while we stand prepared to serve our country, as we have in the past, shoulder to shoulder with other citizens, we demand that for the sweat and blood that we are prepared to give, we must receive, in return, a full share of the democracy that we struggle to maintain.

LAND OF THE NOBLE FREE

By LAYLE LANE

"Letters make the most interesting reading in the world... especially other people's" is a headline announcing Lincoln Schuster's recently published "A Treasury of the World's Great Letters."

Letters can do more though, than provide reading; they can arouse one to a fighting pitch as the one following which I received December 14 regarding a protest of the punishment of messmen on the U. S. S. Philadelphia.

DEC 21 1940
Navy Department
Bureau of Navigation
Washington, D. C.

December, 12, 1940

My dear Miss Lane:

Your communication of recent date in the interest of certain Mess Attendants of the Navy is acknowledged. The Bureau requested and received a complete report regarding

the men in question. The report and the newspaper articles definitely indicated that these men were dissatisfied with service conditions and the duties required of men of their ratings.

After careful consideration of all the circumstances attending, the Bureau held that the best interests of the Navy and the men required their separation from the Navy. Accordingly on the 27th ultimo this Bureau directed that they be discharged from the Naval service.

Sincerely yours,
C. W. Nimitz
Chief of Bureau
H. G. Shoner, by direction.

There had been no previous charge against the men for unsatisfactory performance of their work so it is safe to assume that this is just an added charge to justify penalizing them for writing a letter of complaint against the discrimination practiced by the United States Navy.

For a Christmas present they have the prospect of applying for home relief or standing in a bread line!

Every Negro in the country should flood the Navy with protests reminding it that the first amendment provides that Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or

the right of people to peacefully assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." The Navy cannot and must not be above the Constitution.

To off-set the Navy letter was a more encouraging one from Dr. Floyd Reeves of the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense.

On November 16 Miss Selma Borchardt, legislative representative of the American Federation of Teachers and I, in my capacity as vice-president at large of the AFT met with Dr. Weaver of the Advisory Commission representing Dr. Reeves to discuss the problem of vocational training of the Negro in the defense program.

The following memorandum was presented to the Advisory Commission:

The policy of the Advisory Commission has been definitely stated

as equality of opportunity for all groups in the defense training program. In addition, the supplementary appropriations bill states that no person shall be discriminated against on account of color and further that funds may be used to see that training is provided in those states where separate schools are maintained."

Toward this end the American Federation of Teachers makes the following recommendations:

That the Advisory Commission secure from the various State Boards of Vocational Training information as to what provision is being made in their states for training Negroes for participation in the defense program.

That the Advisory Commission ask the NAACP and the Urban League to supply it with information regarding specific cases of discrimination in various areas.

That facilities for training in those areas where it is now given be made available to Negroes; that where it is not given, transportation be provided for Negroes to go where the training is given.

That a survey be made concerning the practices of the United States Navy yards and arsenals in offering apprentice training for Negroes and where there is discrimination in making this training available for Negroes the Commission use its influence to remove the discrimination.

That the Advisory Commission hold a conference of vocational teachers, labor leaders, representatives of the AFT, NEA and liberal groups to discuss the problem of the "what" and "how" in providing educational equality for Negroes in the national defense training program.

On December 2nd Dr. Reeves wrote regarding the memorandum:

"My dear Miss Lane:

"I have your letter of November 22 relative to the conference which you and Miss Borchardt had with Dr. Weaver."

"At the time, let me say how sorry I am that my earlier communication to you was inadvertently addressed to Chicago and consequently did not reach you until the Monday following your appointment. I regret very much that the resulting confusion prevented our discussing further the matter of Negro participation in the training program."

"You may be interested in the

attached copy of a letter sent by the Office of Education to the Superintendents of Education in states having separate Negro schools, was addressed to all other State Education Offices. We believe that this approach on the part of the Commissioner of Education will do much to facilitate wider participation of Negroes in defense training.

"Already the National Defense Advisory Commission has requested the NAACP and the Urban League to supply it with information regarding specific instances of discrimination in training and employment in various areas of the country. Such cases are constantly coming to our attention and we are exerting every effort to correct undesirable patterns in either field.

"In all allocation of funds for equipment, we have been assured that the Office of Education will direct this program so as to reach all groups in the population. Commissioner Studebaker's letter of November 20 should also have an influence in this field."

"The matter of the United States Navy Yards and Army Arsenals offering apprenticeship training to Negroes is already in our thinking, and we hope in the near future to be able to follow your suggestion in making a survey in this situation. You may be sure that when we have secured the facts in the case we will do everything possible to extend the scope of Negro participation."

"Although we appreciate your suggestion of hold a conference relative to the Negro and defense training, we question the desirability of calling such a meeting at this time. As you can readily imagine, we have been participating in a large number of conferences on many phases of our work. During the current week there have been two such meetings devoted entirely to the discussion of the Negro in the defense program. In light of these circumstances, we feel that our attention should be concentrated upon analyzing the findings and recommendations made to date and attempting to deal with them in our program. Members of our staff, however, are available in their Washington offices to discuss specific problems with persons interested in such issues."

"I trust that this information and the attachment will be of assistance to you. The Commission will be glad to furnish you any additional materials which may be of interest

to you."

Sincerely yours,
Floyd W. Reeves
Executive Asst. for Labor Supply

It would be a mistake to believe that integration of the Negro in the defense program can be accomplished by letters... however encouraging they are.

Negroes must apply and keep applying for this training. Now that the office of Education has designated 65 engineering colleges in all parts of the country for defense training where it will pay the tuition of 25,000 youths mainly from the ranks of the unemployed, we ought to concentrate applications on those institutions where the training is the best and the color barriers the least difficult to overcome; making sure however, to make test cases of all of them in order to assure our right to share in public education.

Those who apply must be backed up by public support and this can be most effectively given through organizations. There should be increased growth for the Urban League, NAACP, the Workers Defense League, and labor unions... for unfortunately, our fight is two fold... within and without the unions. This growth must be in every community in order that the fight may be more effectively made.

DEC 21 1940

DEC 21 1940

"Navy Problem Almost Insoluble" - Col. Knox

OCT 19 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—The much-discussed conference of Sept. 27, in the White House, at which Negro leaders conferred with President Roosevelt and members of his cabinet, brought to the penetrating light of public inspection the "No Negro" attitude of the U.S. Navy, in regard to the Negro.

Speaking on this phase of the discussion, Col. Knox, Secretary of the Navy, stated that while he was sympathetic, he felt that the problem in the Navy was almost insoluble, since men have to live together on ships.

Col. Knox further stated that "Southern" and "Northern" ships are impossible.

Navy Jails Negro Messboys for Asking Rights

NOV 13 1940
18 'Being Punished,' Two Already in Prison; Case Highlights Jim Crow 'Defense' Policy

NOV 13 1940

Eighteen Negro messmen in the United States Navy are being "punished" and are subject to court-martial for speaking out against the terrific racial discrimination in the country's naval forces, according to a story published in the current issue of the Pittsburgh Courier, national Negro weekly.

In its Nov. 9th issue, the Courier carries appeals from several of these militant victims of official race prejudice, in which they write:

"We are not attempting to stir up strife, hate or discontent, we are only trying to tell our people to go to the front and demand what we so justly deserve."

Explaining why the 18 young men are mistreated, one of them writes:

"You remember the story the Philadelphia boys put in your paper? Well, two are in prison right now for standing up for their rights and are getting High Court-Martial

in the Navy. Goodwin and Johnson were put in prison for standing up for their rights and all the rest of us can't leave the ship and we need mercy.

"I hope the people of my race will not stand up and see men tell the truth and go to prison."

EXECUTIONS IN 1918

Not since 11 Negro members of the armed forces were executed during the world war hysteria for defending their rights in Texas, has such a mass exhibition of racial persecution been seen in military circles.

Commenting on the cases, the Courier says:

"Col. Benjamin O. Davis has been made a general in the United States Army . . . Judge William Hastie has been named a civilian aide to the Secretary of War . . . Major Campbell Johnson has been made executive assistant to the director of the selective service, but that means nothing.

"The United States Navy still abuses, restricts and jim crows Black boys!"

It is a notorious fact that the highest that a Negro boy can rise in the Navy is officers' messman, no matter how long he stays in the service or how high his record or achievements.

Not only are the Negro members of the naval service being forced to accept this discrimination, but they are being punished for speaking out against it.

NO PLACE TO EAT

One of the letters signed jointly by three of the messmen, Richard C. Watts, Donald Moran and William Seabrook says in part:

"We mess attendants in the Navy, as is our rate, are the lowest and the slowest rate for advancement. We may pass our examinations and still not get a promotion. Also, it will be found that on the smaller ships in the Navy, the mess boys really do not have a place to eat their food properly. He either has to stand up or sit down on the deck to eat, while the rest of the crew have designated tables, where they may sit, talk, properly masticate and enjoy their food.

"We are subjected to being roughly spoken to three-fourths of the time, cursed at sometimes, without even a murmur of resentment coming from us. In case of resentment we are put on report, restricted, fined, or sent to

the brig for being insubordinate to a superior officer, etc. told by the Roosevelt Administration, and Willkie that "this is a war for democracy." Jim-crowism is rife in the Army while Negroes are barred from the air corps altogether.

NOV 13 1940
That this mistreatment should take place now indicates clearly that lynch hysteria is already being whipped up to a point it did not reach until after the last world war, during the infamous Palmer raids upon labor and progressives.

The courage of these victimized Negro Navy boys in exposing such un-American persecution to public view is a service to the country, and is warning to the American people of the dire menace to their liberties in the present fake "defense" hysteria.

OPPRESSION SPREADS

The mistreatment of these 18 boys reveals the shocking Hitlerism which is taking place against Negroes in the armed forces, a mistreatment which has been carried over from the lynch oppression against Negroes outside your Senator. Write to the President of the United States.

"Sit down and write to your Congressman. Write to the President of the United States. Send them the story of these boys."

gram itself is intensifying the national discrimination against the Negroes at the same time that they are being

"Navy Problem Almost Insoluble" -- Col. Knox

OCT 19 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—The much-discussed conference of Sept. 27, in the White House, at which Negro leaders conferred with President Roosevelt and members of his cabinet, brought to the penetrating light of public inspection the "No Negro" attitude of the U.S. Navy. In regard to the Negro.

Speaking on this phase of the discussion, Col. Knox, Secretary of the Navy, stated that while he was sympathetic, he felt that the problem in the Navy was almost insoluble, since men have to live together on ships. Col. Knox further stated that "Southern" and "Northern" ships are impossible.

in the Navy. Goodwin and Johnson were put in prison for standing up for their rights and all the rest of us can't leave the ship and we need mercy.

"I hope the people of my race will not stand up and see men tell the truth and go to prison."

EXECUTIONS IN 1918

Not since 11 Negro members of the armed forces were executed during the world war hysteria for defending their rights in Texas, has such a mass exhibition of racial persecution been seen in military circles.

Commenting on the cases, the Courier says:

"Col. Benjamin O. Davis has been made a general in the United States Army . . . Judge William Hastie has been named a civilian aide to the Secretary of War . . . Major Campbell Johnson has been made executive assistant to the director of the selective service, but that means nothing.

"The United States Navy still abuses, restricts and jim crows Black boys!"

It is a notorious fact that the highest that a Negro boy can rise in the Navy is officers' messman, no matter how long he stays in the service or how high his record or achievements.

Not only are the Negro members of the naval service being forced to accept this discrimination, but they are being punished for speaking out against it.

NO PLACE TO EAT

One of the letters signed jointly by three of the messmen, Richard C. Watts, Donald Moran and William Seabrook says in part:

"We mess attendants in the Navy, as is our rate, are the lowest and the slowest rate for advancement. We may pass our examinations and still not get a promotion. Also, it will be found that on the smaller ships in the Navy, the mess boys really do not have a place to eat their food properly. He either has to stand up or sit down on the deck to eat, while the rest of the crew have designated tables, where they may sit, talk, properly masticate and enjoy their food.

"We are subjected to being roughly spoken to three-fourths of the time, cursed at sometimes, without even a murmur of resentment coming from us. In case of resentment we are put on report, restricted, fined, or sent to

told by the Roosevelt Administration, and Willkie that "this is a war for democracy." Jim-crowism is rife in the Army while Negroes are barred from the air corps altogether.

NOV 13 1940

That this mistreatment should take place now indicates clearly that lynch hysteria is already being whipped up to a point it did not reach until after the last world war, during the infamous Palmer raids upon labor and progressives.

The courage of these victimized Negro Navy boys in exposing such un-American persecution to public view is a service to the country, and is warning to the American people of the dire menace to their liberties in the present fake "defense" hysteria.

At the request of the young men, the Courier has urged:

"Sit down and write to your Congressman. Write to your Senator. Write to the President of the United States. Send them the story of these boys."

Navy Jails Negro Messboys for Asking Rights

NOV 13 1940

18 'Being Punished,' Two Already in Prison; Case Highlights Jim Crow 'Defense' Policy

NOV 13 1940

Eighteen Negro messmen in the United States Navy are being "punished" and are subject to court-martial for speaking out against the terrific racial discrimination in the country's naval forces, according to a story published in the current issue of the Pittsburgh Courier, national Negro weekly.

In its Nov. 9th issue, the Courier carries appeals from several of these militant victims of official race prejudice, in which they write:

"We are not attempting to stir up strife, hate or discontent, we are only trying to tell our people to go to the front and demand what we so justly deserve."

Explaining why the 18 young men are mistreated, one of them writes:

"You remember the story the Philadelphia boys put in your paper? Well, two are in prison right now for standing up for their rights and are getting High Court-Martial

the brig for being insubordinate to a superior officer, etc.

"The majority of the officers seem to think that we Negroes are a race of illiterates who have to have someone standing over them with a whip all the time and tell them what to do. They are the kings, we are the flunkies . . . whatever they say or do to us is above reproach as far as they are concerned. We have no side to our story, and if we have it, it doesn't do any good anyway, so we just keep our mouths shut.

"With God's help . . . we hope to achieve that which our people so deserve — Equality in the government, church, school and social and industrial life."

OPPRESSION SPREADS

The mistreatment of these 18 boys reveals the shocking Hitlerism which is taking place against Negroes in the armed forces, a mistreatment which has been carried over from the lynch oppression against Negroes outside the armed forces. It shows that the very "defense" program itself is intensifying the national discrimination against the Negroes at the same time that they are being

Navy Messmen, In Prison, Cry Out For Help From Readers

**Boys Who Wrote to Courier Face Court Martial—Mess-
Man at Norfolk Warns Parents—Says Navy
Makes "Toughies" of Their Boys.**

NOV 9 1940

Col. Benjamin O. Davis has been made a general in the United States Army, but that means nothing.

Judge William Hastie has been named a civilian aide to the Secretary of War, but that means nothing.

Major Campbell Johnson has been made executive assistant to the director of selective service, but that means nothing.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY
STILL ABUSES RESTRICTS AND
JIMCROW'S BLACK BOYS!

Not only is discrimination still rife in the United States Navy, but the victims of this discrimination must not open their mouths.

A month ago, eighteen mess boys on the U.S.S. Philadelphia informed The Courier of the mistreatment to which they were subjected. Today these boys are prisoners. They face court martial.

Even in the face of this, they cry out. Herewith are published letters from these boys and their friends. Read them. Study them. Then sit down and write to your Congressman. Write to your Senator. Write to the President of the United States. Send them the story of these boys.

Mobile, Ala. Press
November 6, 1940

ACCEPTED BY NAVY

Three colored boys who enlisted in the United States navy through the recruiting station in Mobile today had been accepted for duty and had begun training, J. E. Green, officer in charge of the recruiting unit, announced. All of these boys had completed high school education, he said. They are: Willis E. Singleton and Easell Foutian, Mobile, and Johnnie Van Stallworth, Repton.

What Kind of 'Defense'
This? NOV 14 1940

• Nothing exposes the reactionary character of the so-called "defense" program like the unjust treatment being meted out to 18 Negro messmen in the United States Navy.

Daily Worker
Because they spoke out against the fierce jim-crowism and discrimination in the naval service, three of these Negro boys have been placed in prison and all of them are subject to courts-martial. This directs attention to the shameful discrimination against Negro citizens which exists throughout the armed forces of the country.

The very courageous protest of these Negro servicemen strikes a responsive chord in every fair-minded American and warns of the danger to civil liberties inherent in the "defense" set-up.

New York
The treatment of these 18 boys is part and parcel of the whole system of lynch oppression imposed upon the Negro people in and out of the armed forces. And under the impact of the "defense" program and its war hysteria, lynch terror is increasing. Seven persons have been lynched already in 1940. There is complete "national unity" between the major parties to "forget" the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments.

What kind of "defense" program is it when in its very operation, it intensifies Hitlerism against the Negro people? What kind of "defense program for democracy" is it when it provides a shield for the Roosevelt Administration and the Republicans to scrap the anti-lynch and anti-poll tax bills which are to guarantee democratic rights for Negro Americans?

In reality, the "defense" program is turning out to be a real defense for the bourbonism of Wall Street and the Southern lynch class against the Negroes. It is only by carrying through a united struggle against the war-mongering "defense" program, that the bill, the anti-poll tax measure c rights can be given reality.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 OFFICERS.

Brigadier General Davis NOV 15 1940

For the first time in the history of the United States army a Negro will wear the stars of a general. This unprecedented event was made possible last Friday when President Franklin D. Roosevelt promoted Col. Benjamin O. Davis, of the 369th (N. Y.) Coast Artillery to the rank of brigadier general.

We congratulate both the President and General Davis. We felicitate the soldier upon his elevation to the high post, and pay tribute to Mr. Roosevelt for his courage in making the appointment.

It has been said that the general will reach the retirement age next July and, further, that the promotion was made on a basis of politics. We are not disturbed by either of these bits of information. Regardless of the circumstances, Benjamin O. Davis, a Negro, is a brigadier general in the United States army, and that is something.

Here is an instance in which the President's act in breaking a precedent will hardly bring severe criticism, except from the bourbons of the South, who, politics or no politics, don't want Negroes in high places in the government or the army or navy. And whether the general serves one year or one month, the records will forever show that a Negro has attained the rank of general in the army, and once this has been established it will be less difficult for a future President to name a successor.

And on the matter of the President's courage in appointing Colonel Davis to the higher post, something must be said. Democratic Presidents have almost always had the backing of the solid South and their administrations have usually been influenced greatly by the Southern prejudices. Mr. Roosevelt, a Democrat, has risen above this situation, and by the sheer force of superior leadership, has been able to open up new avenues for Negroes at the hazard of antagonizing his support of the Dixie delegation.

We still remember the time Senator "Cotton" Ed Smith walked out of the Democratic convention hall in Philadelphia because the Rev. Marshall W. Sheppard was chosen to pronounce the invocation. And, further, we recall there was no effort on the part of President Roosevelt to placate the senator from South Carolina, rather, we believe Brother "Cotton" Ed was one of the insurgents President Roosevelt sought to purge.

First Race General In History of U. S. Army Appointed

Hastie, Johnson Named To High Federal Posts

NOV 2 1940
WASHINGTON, D. C.—

The highest rank ever attained by a colored officer in the United States Army was reached when Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, commanding officer of the 39th Coast Artillery (anti-aircraft), New York National Guard, was promoted last Friday to the temporary rank of brigadier general.

The U. S. War Department also announced Saturday that President Roosevelt had appointed Judge William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard University Law School, as civilian aide to the Secretary of War.

Judge Hastie will be concerned with "the development and administration of policies looking to the fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the armed forces," the announcement stated.

At the same time, Dr. Clarence A. Dykstra, national Selective Service director, announced the appointment of Major Campbell C. Johnson, first instructor of military science and tactics at Howard Uni-

versity, as executive assistant to the Selective Service director.

MAJOR APPOINTMENTS

Both appointments followed by a few hours the promotion by President Roosevelt of Colonel Davis, the first Negro to be elevated to the grade of general in the United States armed forces.

In accepting his duties with the War Department, Judge Hastie, a member of the board of directors of the NAACP and a founder of the New Negro Alliance, declared:

STATES HIS VIEWS

"I have always been consistently opposed to any policy of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces of this country. I am assuming this post in the hope that I will be able to work effectively toward the integration of the Negro into the Army and to facilitate his placement, training and promotion."

Judge Hastie, a graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School, was formerly an assistant solicitor in the Department of the Interior.

Later he was appointed by President Roosevelt as federal judge of the U. S. District Court in the Virgin Islands, the first Negro ever elevated to the federal bench.

Judge Hastie resigned this post in 1939 to assume the deanship of the law school at Howard. He will be granted a leave from that position so that he may assume his new

duties in the War Department.

Major Johnson, who will aid Dr. Dykstra in administrative affairs of the Selective Service, with special attention to the racial phases of the draft, is an instructor at Howard University and executive secretary of the Twelfth Street Y. M. C. A. here.

SERVED IN WAR

A native of Washington, Major Johnson served as a captain of infantry in the World War. He organized the first R. O. T. C. unit at Howard University during the war and served as its first professor of military science and tactics.

A graduate of the University and Howard Law School, Major Johnson received his present commission in the Reserve Officers Corps in 1929. He is a member of the District of Columbia Parole Board and practiced law for two years before assuming the secretaryship of the local Y. M. C. A.

The new Executive Assistant to the Selective Service Director is a member of the Family Service Association, the Council of Social Agencies, the Community Chest, the Washington Housing Association, the Southwest Community House, and other civic and welfare organizations.

IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS

Two of the first problems Judge Hastie will confront will be the demand of colored organizations for assignment of colored Reserve officers to duty with units of the Regular Army and the appointment of colored youths as flying cadets and their training as pilots, aviation mechanics and specialists for duty with the Army Air Corps.

The question of integration of colored personnel into all branches of the military establishment has occupied the attention of Major Johnson for quite sometime. He was one of the original group which appeared in June before the Senate Appropriations Committee and urged the incorporation into the military appropriation act of language which would make it mandatory upon the War Department to organize colored units in all arms of the military establishment.

Later he played an important part in the enlargement of that group into the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program, which has carried on the fight for equitable participation of colored personnel in both the military and civil phases of the national defense program.

Colonel Davis' promotion was one of several the War Department an-

nounced as necessary to meet the requirements of leadership and proper rank essential to the expansion of the Army to 1,400,000 men in a year through voluntary enlistments and selective service.

PROBABLE ASSIGNMENT

In all probability, Brigadier General Davis will command a brigade of cavalry which is to be organized in the second cavalry division. At the War Department it was said the new brigade will probably be stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas. The famous Ninth and Tenth Cavalry units are expected to form a part of it.

Brigadier General Davis began his military career on July 13, 1898, as a first lieutenant with the 8th United States Infantry, a special organization during the Spanish-American War. He was mustered out of the service on March 6, 1899.

MILITARY RECORD

He enlisted as a private in the 9th Cavalry on June 14, 1899. In the course of the next two years he served as a corporal and a sergeant major. He was appointed a second lieutenant of cavalry on February 2, 1901; a first lieutenant on March 30, 1905; a captain on December 24, 1915; a major (temporary) on August 5, 1917, to August 6, 1918; a lieutenant colonel on July 1, 1920, and a colonel on February 18, 1930.

About two years ago, at the request of Governor Herbert Lehman, the War Department detailed him to New York to command the 369th Infantry, which lately was converted into a coast artillery (anti-aircraft) regiment.

Brigadier General Davis was born in the District of Columbia on July 1, 1877. He is a product of the local public schools. As he is over 62 years of age he is subject to retirement at the discretion of the President.

His son is a 1936 West Point graduate, now assigned to Tuskegee Institute as R. O. T. C. instructor. He holds the rank of lieutenant.

Senate Confirms Gen. B. O. Davis NOV 15 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C. (ANP)—The Senate Thursday confirmed President Roosevelt's nomination of Col. B. O. Davis to be promoted to the rank of brigadier general. General Davis is expected to be assigned to command a division made up of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalries with headquarters in Fort Riley, Kas.

Race Had Another General Back In 1905 Letter Reveals

Edward A. Johnson Received Honorary Commission From Theodore Roosevelt

NOV 9 1940

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Although Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis is the first Negro soldier to attain his present rank by actual promotion at the hands of the President of the United States, he is not the first member of the race to be designated as a general by a President, it was revealed this week.

In March 1905, Edward A. Johnson of this city rode at the head of the Pennsylvania delegation in President Theodore Roosevelt's inaugural parade having been commissioned, along with several others, as Brigadier General by President Roosevelt, according to his nephew, Edward R. Dudley of 17 West 132nd Street. Mr. Johnson is now 80 years old but in good health despite his advanced years.

In a communication to the Journal and Guide, Mr. Dudley writes: "A short time prior to this occasion, Mr. Johnson was assistant United States District Attorney stationed at Raleigh, N. C. During March 1905, the Raleigh News and Observer published an article captioned, 'Commission to Prominent Raleigh Negro,' of which the following is a paragraph:

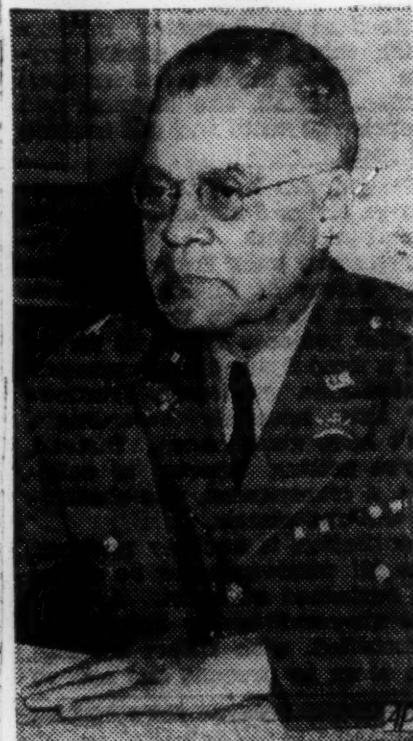
"Raleigh has her General of the Colored race. It is now General Johnson, which even in these piping times of peace wins from the files of history a martial sound. The civic commission and Rooseveltian color-blindness has operated to the pride of Raleigh for a distinction that is so far as known unique."

Mr. Johnson later came to New York to establish his home and pursue his career in the practice of law. Mr. Dudley's letter continues. In 1917 he ran for the office of Assemblyman from the 19th Assembly District and succeeded in becoming the first member of his race to be elected to this office. . . In his office and residence, carefully framed, are the sash, spur, eal, saddle-blanket and certificate bearing witness to his appointment by President Theodore Roosevelt.

"This letter is not an attempt to detract from the honor bestowed upon Col. Benjamin O. Davis, because the appointment I herein refer to was an honorary one, while Col. Davis' promotion is to

be cited as nothing short of diligent, meritorious years of sincere service to the United States Army."

Gadsden, Ala., Times
October 31, 1940



FIRST—Col. Benjamin O. Davis (above) became the first Negro general in U. S. army history thanks to his recent promotion to the rank of brigadier general. Davis now commands the 369th anti-aircraft coast artillery, N. Y. national guard.

Gen. Johnson Under Fire For Article On Gen. Davis

NOV 8 1940
By ROBERT A. CRUMP

DETROIT—(A N P)—A syndicated article by General Johnson which appeared in a local daily newspaper Monday has certainly raised the ire of a good many well-thinking people here. The article which dealt with the recent appointment by President Roosevelt of Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, took a slap not only at Gen. Davis but at the entire group as well. It sounded, according to a leading minister here, "Like the praying of a certain long eared animal that Baylon rode in the Bible story."

The general first hands a word of praise to both the late Col. Charles Young and Gen. Davis as splendid officers and fine gentlemen. Then goes on to say that the appointment of Gen. Davis was "terrible" because "it was rank discrimination against his brother officers, ruinous to the army, and a second great step in the destruction of morale and the success of the draft."

Johnson then shows his extreme prejudice when says that a Negro general over white officers from colonel down "just doesn't work" and suggests that all white officers be transferred out and Negro officers in the reserve corps be called to active duty.

He attempts to substantiate his claim by quoting what he claims the late Col. Young once said to him: (Johnson) "If I wanted complete revenge on a super-enemy, I wouldn't send him to hades. I would make him a Negro officer in a white army." We have only Gen. Johnson's word for this statement. Colonel Young is dead.

Johnson raves on after prefacing his prejudice as he says: "This column has no racial or religious prejudice." And in the same breath he says, since Gen. Davis has only one year to serve, the appointment

"to him is but an empty gesture, and to the army complete disruption." First he says that white officers will not serve under Negro officers of higher command, then states that Negro soldiers don't like to serve under Negro officers, but that they are the peers of any soldiers on earth when commanded by white officers.

Johnson's article was dressed up as a thrust at President Roosevelt for making the appointment as a political move to get the Negro vote, and says further that it wasn't good politics.

NOV 8 1940
He holds roses in one hand when he said in closing: "Negroes are not fools. They are as shrewd as any other Americans," then hurls a brick-bat with the other hand which calls all Negroes fools when he states: "The endorsement of Mr. Willkie by their idol, Joe Louis,

is ten times more important to them than the appointment of a Negro to general in the army of his country."

FIRST NEGRO GENERAL IN U. S. HISTORY NAMED
NOV —7 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Roosevelt has announced the promotion of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to become the first Negro general in the army history.

Davis' elevation, to be a brigadier general, was among a number of high-rank promotions which Mr. Roosevelt said were required by the increase of the army.

Major General Delos C. Emmons, commander of the GHQ Air Force, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general, the same rank held by commanders of the Army Corps.

Major General Henry H. Arnold, chief of the Air Corps, was transferred to a newly-created post of Deputy Chief of Staff, to co-ordinate all matters pertaining to the Air Corps.

Gainesville, Ga., Eagle
November 14, 1940

Davis Is Named First Negro U. S. General

For the first time in the history of the United States army, a negro Colonel has been promoted to the rank of General. President Roosevelt has announced the promotion of Benjamin O. Davis from the rank of Colonel to Brigadier-General.

Davis' elevation, it was announced, was among a number of high rank promotions which Mr. Roosevelt said were required by the increase of the army.

Colonel Davis, highest ranking of a relative handful of negro army officers, has had 42 years of military service. A native of Washington, D. C., he is 63.

Predict Trouble Is Looming For Gen. Davis At Fort Riley

Uncle Tom Veterans Plotting

Former Member
Of 9th Cavalry
Exposes Move

DEC 29 1940

By LA ZETTA LIDRAZZAH

FORT RILEY, Kan.—(ANP)—It recently promoted Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis is assigned to duty with the 9th and 10th cavalry in this area, he may look forward to an unhappy time.

Most of the older soldiers and the non-commissioned officers have stated they prefer white officers and currently are "faring a hundred times better under white officers than we would under Gen. Davis."

To understand the reasoning back of this strange psychology, one must understand the mental makeup of the soldiers and non-commissioned officers who are members of these regular army units. I know, for I served in the 9th cavalry for 12 years and left it only last summer.

"OLD MEN" FORM
OPPOSITION

For almost two decades, the 9th and 10th cavalymen were little more than uniformed chambermaids, bootblacks, stablehands and flunkies for white officers and units, and 9th being restored to active duty status only last August.

During the intervening years, white commissioned officers carefully selected and cultivated a mob of semi-illiterate colored non-commissioned officers who received special privileges in return for depriving other Negro soldiers of the few favorable advantages granted the race by the war department.

These men, and the privates who have also gone along with them to obtain special favors, are the ones who are opposed to Gen. Davis as their commanding officer.

These "old soldiers," struggling along at the ranks of private and corporal, despite more than 20 years of service, begin to predict a formidable end to their freedom and privileges. Some contended that the rank of B. O. Davis would inspire him to treat them worse

than any white commanding officer under whom they have served.

These old soldiers were the leaders of the mob, which comprised approximately 95 percent of the soldiers of the 9th cavalry, that opposed the late Major Monroe S. Caver, their chaplain, in everything he planned during his last days in which he devoted his spare moments to documents which was meant to aid those interested in the recognition of the rights of Negro soldiers.

"UNCLE TOMS" GLAD

Near the close of November, grapevine rumors suggested that Gen. Davis had declined a chance to serve with the 9th and 10th cavalries. This, according to the Un-

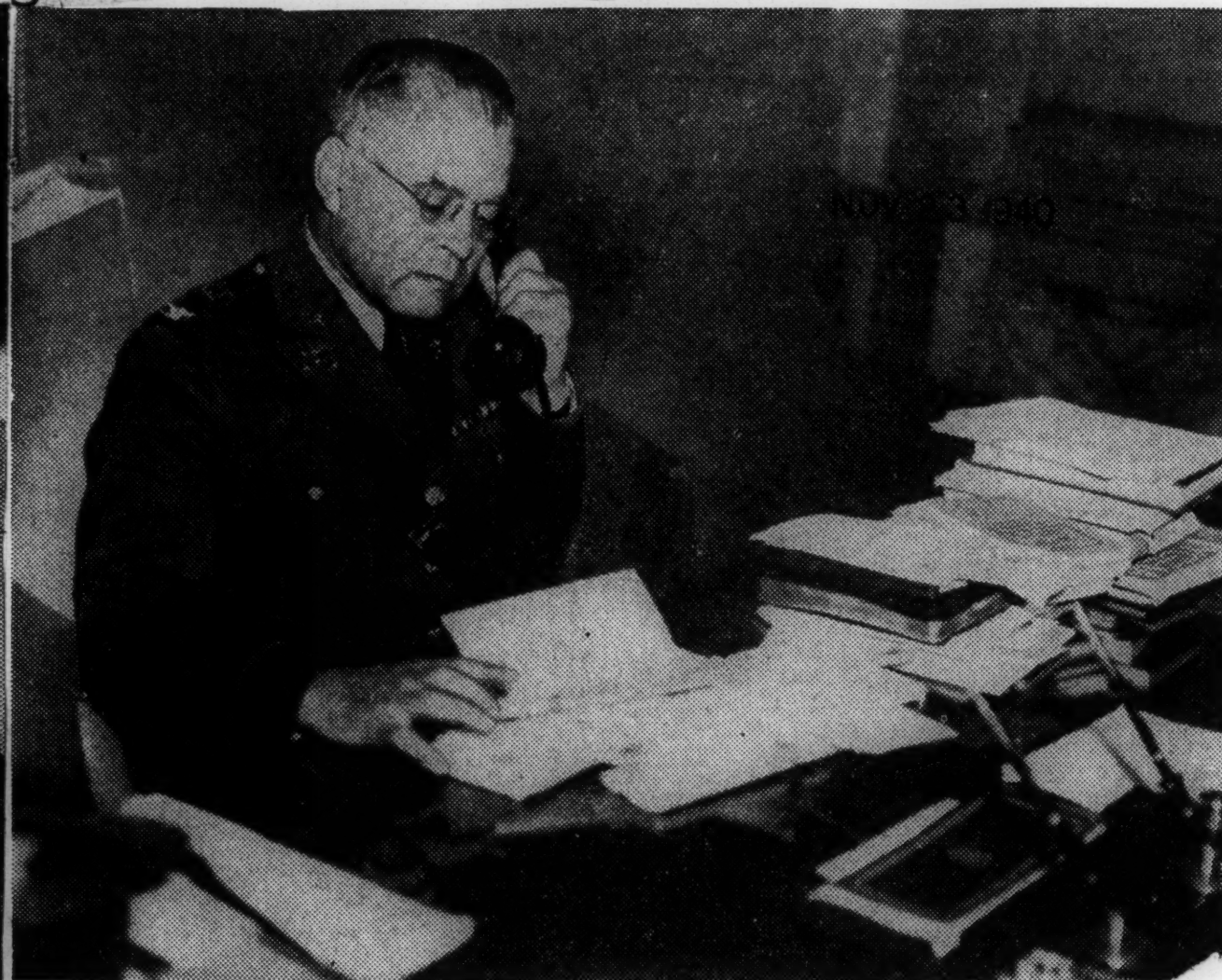
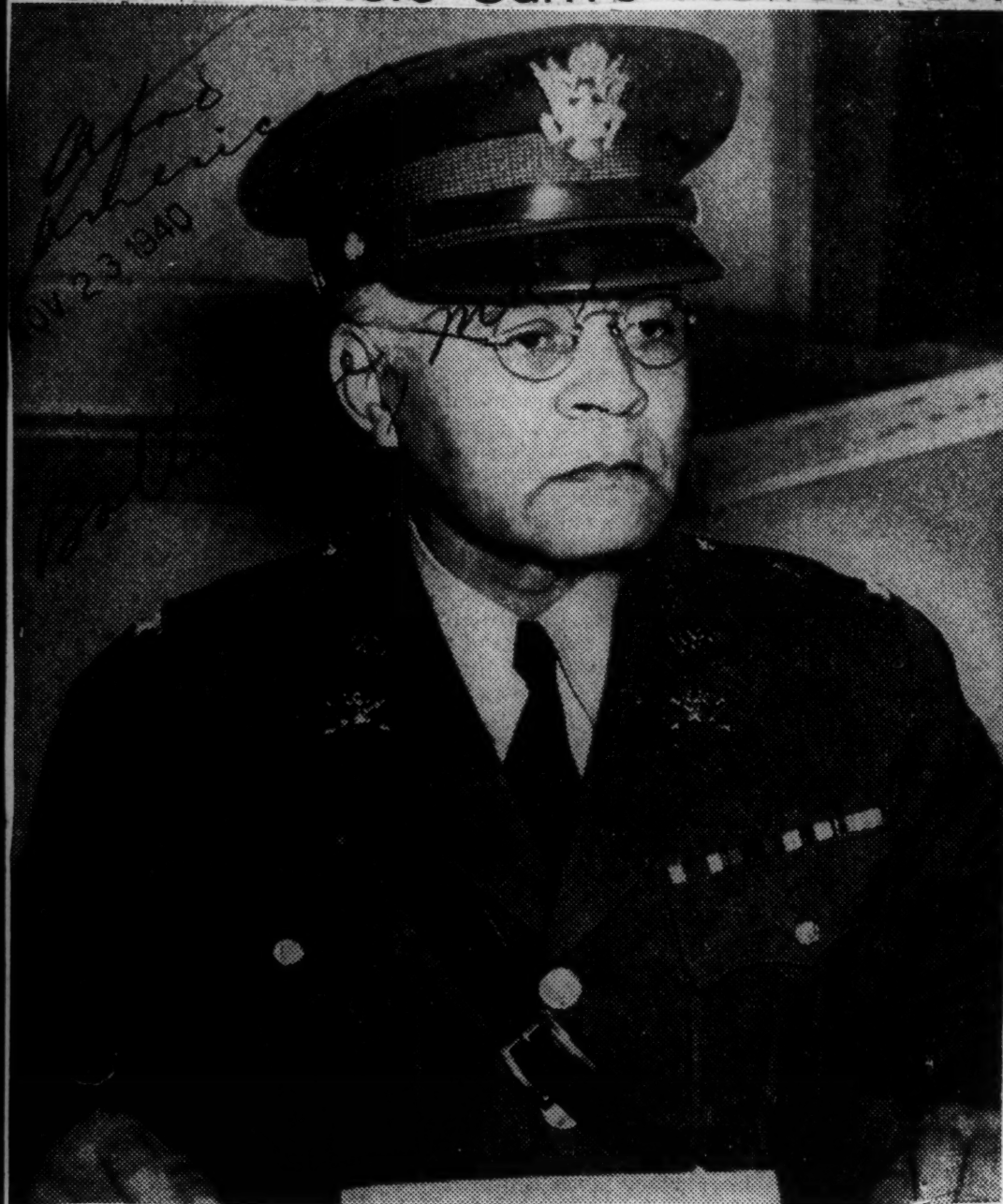
cle Tome, of the white officered 9th and 10th, was the best news that they had heard in years.

Nevertheless, having served 12 years as a private of the 9th cavalry, the writer has observed the introduction of enough acts of segregation, imposed upon Negro soldiers and civilians of Ft. Leavenworth and Ft. Riley to declare:

"The suggestions of such Negro non-commissioned officers, are one of the main reasons why young, intelligent, progressive-minded Negroes are most always kicked out of the army and given dishonorable discharges. Those who are fortunate enough to get an honorable discharge find them mutilated with black marks of some description which make it impossible for them to re-enlist should they desire to do so. Levi Pierce, one of the most brilliant and efficient young men to serve with the 9th and 10th, was doomed in such a way."

It is also interesting to note that despite the fact that the 9th cavalry was restored to duty, today Negroes in uniform in Ft. Riley are still washing dishes, polishing boots, scrubbing bathtubs, dumping garbage, grooming horses, flunkying and doing other menial chores for the families of white commissioned officers. This means that the 'progressive step' of the 9th cavalry is merely an appeaser for the eyes of the Negro press and its supporters."

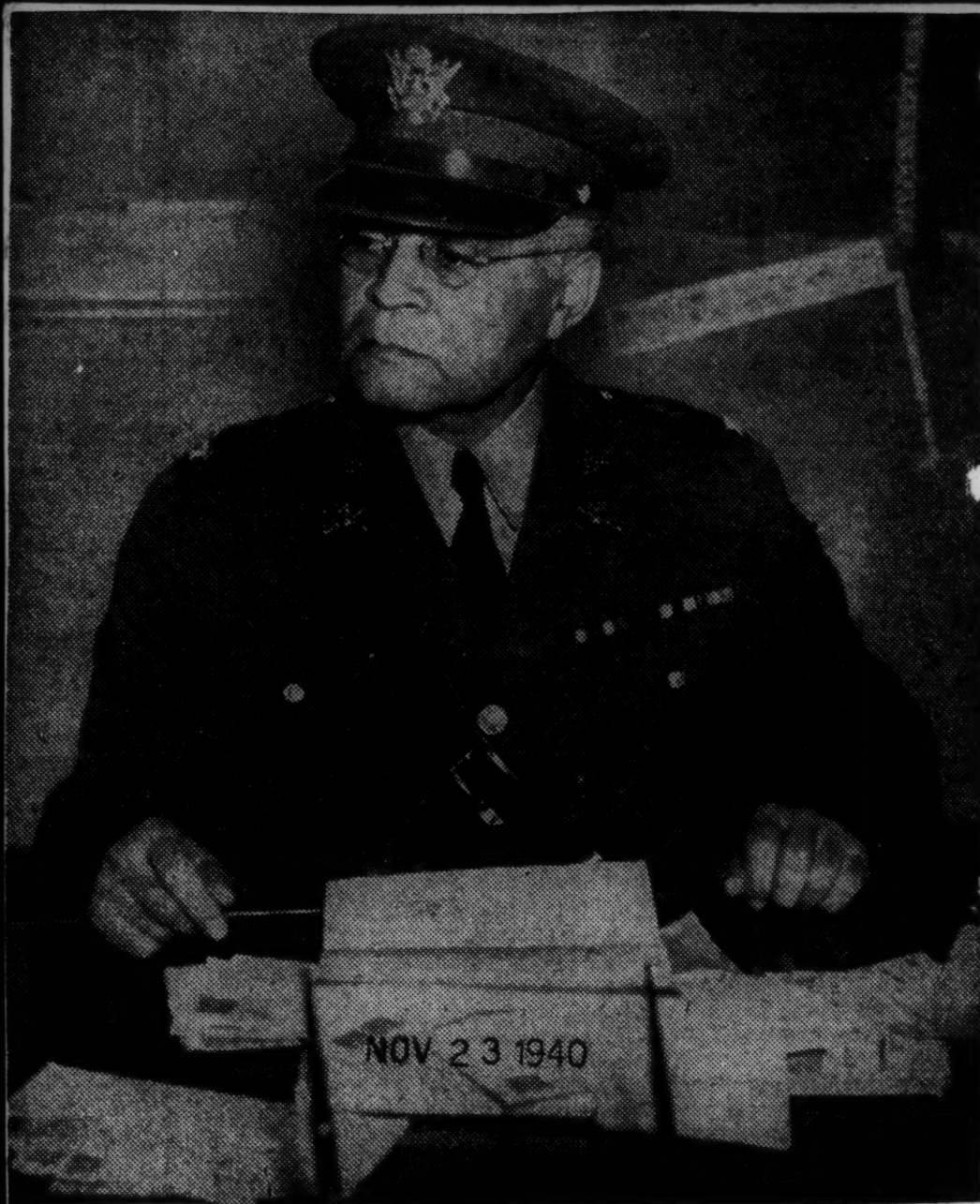
Here Is Uncle Sam's Newest Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis



Three studies of former colonel who was appointed to highest army rank recently. General Davis is a native of Washington, D.C., and attended the city's public schools. He entered the service during the Spanish-American War. General Davis served with the Second Squadron 10th Cavalry in

Samar and Panay, Philippine Islands, during insurrection in 1901-02. He has served as professor of military science and tactics at Ohio State University, Ohio, and Tuskegee University. The left is a close-up of the general in army uniform. Center

New York. At right he pauses after his day's work.



Colored Officers Assigned To Duty At Fort Sill

DEC 26 1940

By LT. RAYMOND WATKINS

FORT SILL, Okla.—(ANP)—The 10 officers from Chicago's 184th Field artillery regiment who arrived here about a week ago for field duty with the 349th Field Artillery regiment at Fort Sill, were placed in command of the third battalion for training purposes. Major Anderson F. Pitts was assigned to duty as battalion commander. Capt. Oscar Randall, Lt. Raymond Watkins, Lt. Edward Wimp, and Lt. George Rose were ordered to duty as battalion staff officers. Capt. Marcus H. Ray took over command of Battery F and Capt. Homer Lewis was placed in command of Battery E. Lt. Joseph Francois and Lt. Orion Page were assigned as battery officers. Capt. Wendell T. Derricks assumed duty as commander of headquarters battery. All of these officers are also attending a special artillery officers school being held within the regimental area.

Observations and work of the first week produced gratifying results and revealed many interesting facts not generally known. The nation-wide belief that Negro soldiers in the U. S. army are assigned to duty as dishwashers, servants and stable grooms has been exploited at last at least with respect to the 349th Field artillery at Fort Sill. These men are sol-

diers and are doing duty required of artillerymen. They are in no instances farmed out to do menial tasks as has been heretofore generally reported throughout the country.

The 249th is a heavy artillery organization under the command of Col. Alfred L. P. Sands. It was reorganized about six months ago at Fort Sill and is composed of 77 white officers and one colored officer, Capt. Frank R. Arnold, regimental chaplain. The entire quota of enlisted men is colored. When the regiment was being recruited up to regular army strength, war department intelligence tests were given to enlisted personnel. The results of these examinations showed that no member of the regiment placed in the two lowest brackets, but that over three-fourths were rated in the "above intelligence" ratio.

Despite the fact that they have a large majority of the troops has had less than one year of service already qualified in the care and firing of the big guns, as well as in the somewhat complicated subject of artillery mathematics. They are now engaging in field target practice many days through each month. The regiment is housed in newly erected, modern barracks, and has been issued new equipment. The amazing rapidity with which the young Negro troops have learned to operate heavy guns will undoubtedly lead the way to organizing more Negro regiments in this branch of service with the regular army.

COL. WARFIELD TO QUIT, JAN. 1

DEC 7 1940

CHICAGO, Dec. 5—William J. Warfield has tendered his resignation as Colonel of the 184th Field Artillery, to take effect January 1, 1941, according to an announcement which has just been released. A member of the unit since 1905, he served overseas as captain of the Eighth Illinois and was cited several times for bravery.

It is hinted that his successor will be Captain Richard Jones. Whether Governor Stelle or Governor-Elect Dwight Green will make the appointment, is not known.

DAWSON GETS TOP POSITION

Commander Steps Down to
Devote More Time to
Legislative Duties

DEC 24 1940

CHICAGO — Col. William J. Warfield, World War Veteran, and member of the Illinois General Assembly, has resigned his post as commander of the 184th Field Artillery, it was announced this week. Lieut. Col. Julian Dawson, 52-year-old senior attending surgeon at Provident Hospital, has been promoted to colonel.

The new commander saw serv-

ice overseas during the World War, serving as regimental surgeon in the 369th Infantry, the 317th ammunition train and with several French divisions. The 184th Field Artillery was formerly the Eighth Illinois regiment, U. S. National Guard.

It had been persistently reported that Col. Warfield would resign, but each time a report would crop up the colonel would deny it. It has been reported as persistently that Adjutant Richard L. Jones would succeed Warfield.

Since 1922 when he joined the old Eighth as regimental surgeon, Col. Dawson has risen rapidly, holding several important posts on the way up. The only break in his military career since came in 1925 when he went to Europe for post graduate study in surgery. In 1935 he was promoted to major of infantry and assigned as regimental plans and training officer until the unit became the 184th field artillery.

The former lieutenant colonel was assigned as commanding officer of the second battalion. This post he was holding when he was promoted to head the unit Tuesday.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 OFFICERS

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
October 30, 1940

Elevation of Negro Colonel Seen as New Deal Vote Bid

C. B. Allen of Herald Tribune Says That Army
Officers Note Davis, First General of
His Race, Must Retire in a Year

(From The New York Herald
Tribune)

By C. B. ALLEN

Washington, Oct. 25.—Army officers made no secret today of their conviction that the war department's promotion of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to be the United States army's first negro brigadier general in history was an out-and-out political move by the White House to influence the negro electorate in the two critical and politically doubtful states of New York and Illinois, where the voting negro population is large.

In support of this belief, they pointed to the unusual circumstance that the promotion, announced today among a number of others, comes at a time when he is sixty-three years old and, under the law, must be retired at the end of another year's service. There have been exceptions, but the general rule in the army is that such increases in grade are given four years before the officer concerned is due for retirement.

It was frankly admitted also that the promotion of Colonel Davis, who at present commands the 369th coast artillery regiment of the New York national guard, followed a wave of criticism of the Roosevelt administration and the war department for alleged "Jim Crowism" in the army. This resulted ten days ago in a special announcement of the war department's policy toward negroes, which was given out simultaneously at the White House.

The announcement in question, which some quarters have dubbed the army's "appeasement release" because it was issued under pressure from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and similar organizations that had protested the war department's alleged "discrimination" against negroes, declared that the services of negroes would be "util-

ized on a fair and equitable basis" in the nation's defense program, including the new peace-time selective service system. It outlined a seven-point policy designed to achieve this objective, one provision being that negro organizations were to be established "in each major branch of the service" and another that there would be no intermingling of "colored and white enlisted personnel".

Officers commenting today on the war department's tentative selection of its new negro general to command a brigade in the Second cavalry division, at Fort Riley, Kansas, said the army's companion policy, one of segregating white and colored officers, would suffer a radical reversal if this assignment should be carried out. While the proposed command of General Davis would be made up of negro troops, these are led by white officers, in accordance with the army's regular practice, and 154 such men, ranging from colonels down to second lieutenants, would find themselves with a negro commander.

One speculation which seems to be receiving wide credence in the army is that, instead of permitting such a situation to develop, the administration will make a still stronger bid for the negro vote within the next few days by announcing that colored reserve officers for General Davis's entire brigade will be called to active duty, thereby relieving the present white officers of its component units for service elsewhere in the rapidly expanding army. Part of the so-called "appeasement release" declared that "negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to negro units officered by colored personnel".

War department records show that there are approximately 350 negro reserve officers in the United States, and part of the recent "Jim Crow" clamor raised against the army stemmed from the fact that these men were not being called to

active duty. There are only five negro officers in the regular army, three of these being chaplains.

General Davis and his son, Captain Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., are the army's only negro line officers. Captain Davis, a West Point graduate, had such high academic standing there that he ranked all the officers of his class assigned to the infantry, and he is now professor of military science at Tuskegee institute in Alabama.

Following the White House war department announcement of policy toward negroes in the army on October 15, the administration has been criticized from several sources for apparently attempting to create the false impression that negro flying cadets are already receiving training in the air corps. One provision of the announcement said that negroes are being given aviation training as pilots, mechanics and technicians specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

As a matter of fact "aviation training as pilots" is not being given to negroes by the army. The only government instruction of this nature is in the civilian flight training program of the civil aeronautics administration, principally at Glenview, Ill., near Chicago. There is a loosely implied interest by both the army and navy in graduates of the C. A. A. training program.

TO FORT BENNING

DEC 21 1940



Captain Ernest R. Welch, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering at Howard University, Washington, D.C., who has been called to active duty at Fort Benning, Ga.

Appointments Made by Gov. Of Maryland

DEC 26 1940

Lieut. LeRoy A. Clay, former platoon commander, and second lieutenant of the service company, was promoted to captaincy of the unit as the youngest captain in the entire Maryland National guard units, white or colored.

Dr. John Thomas Sydnor, Pro-
fessor of medicine and chief
dent hospital interne, was ap-
pointed first lieutenant of the
medical corps of the service com-
pany; Vernon Green was appointed
first lieutenant and Sergeant Wil-
liam H. Holliday of the service
company, was promoted to first
lieutenant.

In presenting the commissions to Major Creigler and Captain Caly, Gov. O'Connor said:

"I am indeed happy to have this signal honor of making these appointments, the first in the history of Maryland, and I am equally certain that you, realizing the importance of the appointments, will shoulder the responsibility as creditably as your records in the old

First Separate company indicated. Again I say, this is a very gratifying honor to me."

OFFICIAL ENDS *Amsterdam* TEN-DAY VISIT

Gen. Davis Proceeds Order To Come When 369th Is Inducted

21 1940

Brigadier General E. O. Davis, U. S. A., has been advised that he will remain in New York as instructor in the New York National Guard until the induction of the 369th Coast Artillery into Federal service early in the new year.

Orders will then be issued directing General Davis to proceed to Fort Riley, Kans., to assume command of the Fourth Cavalry Brigade. January 13, 1941, is the date already announced for the "369th's" induction into Federal service.

General Davis, his wife and younger daughter, Elnora, returned here on Friday, Dec. 13, from a ten-day visit in the South which took them to Washington, D. C., their former home; to Greensboro, N. C., where they were guests of President and Mrs. David D. Jones at Bennett College; and to Tuskegee Institute in Ala., where they visited the General's son, Capt. B. O. Davis, Jr., West Point graduate.

RACE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO FT. STILL, OKLA.

Ten From Chicago Will Get Training At Army School

DEC 28 1940

By LT. RAYMOND WATKINS

FORT SILL, Okla.—The 10 officers from Chicago's 184th Field Artillery regiment who arrived here about a week ago for field duty with the 349th

Field Artillery regiment at Fort Sill, young Negro troops have learned to were placed in command of the third operate heavy guns will undoubtedly lead the way to organizing more battalion for training purposes. Negro regiments in this branch of

Major Anderson F. Pitts was assigned to duty as battalion commander. Capt. Oscar Randall, Lt. Raymond Watkins, Lt. Edward Wimp, and Lt. George Rose were ordered to duty as battalion staff officers.

Capt. Marcus H. Ray took over command of Battery F and Capt. Homer Lewis was placed in command of Battery E. Lt. Joseph Francois and Lt. Orion Page were assigned as battery officers. Capt. Wendell T. Derricks assumed duty as commander of headquarters battery.

All of these officers are also attending a special artillery officers school being held within the regimental area.

Observations and work of the first week produced gratifying results and revealed many interesting facts not generally known. The nationwide belief that Negro soldiers in the U.S. army are assigned to duty as dishwashers, servants and stable grooms has been exploited at last, at least with respect to the 349th Field Artillery at Fort Sill.

These men are soldiers and are doing duty required of artillerymen. They are in no instances farmed out to do menial tasks as has been heretofore generally reported throughout the country.

The 349th is a heavy artillery organization under the command of Col. Alfred L. P. Sands. It was reorganized about six months ago at Fort Sill and is composed of 77 white officers and one colored officer, Capt. Frank R. Arnold, regimental chaplain. The entire quota of enlisted men is colored.

When the regiment was being recruited up to regular army strength, war department intelligence tests were given to enlisted personnel. The results of these examinations showed that no member of the regiment placed in the two lowest brackets, but that over three fourths were rated in the "above intelligence" ratio.

Despite the fact that they have had less than one year of service a large majority of the troops qualified in the care and firing of the big guns, as well as in the somewhat complicated subject of artillery mathematics. They are now engaging in field target practice many days through each month.

The regiment is housed in newly erected, modern barracks, and has been issued new equipment. The amazing rapidity with which the

young Negro troops have learned to operate heavy guns will undoubtedly lead the way to organizing more Negro regiments in this branch of service with the regular army.

FROM COLONEL TO COLONEL

DEC 21 1940



A veteran of the World's war, Dr. Julian Dawson, senior surgeon on the staff of Provident hospital, became the new commanding officer of the 184th Field Artillery this week upon the resignation of Col. William J. Warfield. Cameraman caught Colonel Warfield (left) offering congratulations to his successor. Before his elevation Colonel Dawson was lieutenant-colonel of the unit.—Photo by Gushiniere, Chicago Defender staff photographer.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 OFFICERS

Nashville, Tenn. Tennessee
October 29, 1940

Johnson Calls This Not Even Good Politics

BOSTON, Oct. 28—Col. Benjamin O. Davis, (colored), just appointed brigadier general, is a fine man. He has won the respect of his fellow officers by 42 years of service in a most difficult situation. One of the greatest of American Negroes, Col. Charles Young, once said to me: "If I wanted complete revenge on a super-enemy, I wouldn't send him to hell. I would make him a Negro officer in a white army." Colonel Young himself stood that so well that even young Southern white officers felt privileged to serve in his command. He was one of the ablest and most cultured officers of his time.

This column has no racial or religious prejudices. It has frequently insisted on recognition, without discrimination, of Negro talent in every calling. But the appointment of General Davis is terrible, not because he is a Negro, but because it is rank discrimination against his brother officers, ruinous to the Army, and a second great step in the destruction of morale and the success of the draft. The appointment of Elliott Roosevelt was the first.

Colonel Davis has only one year left to serve. Formerly it was a practice to appoint old colonels to be generals on the eve of their compulsory retirement at 64. For years this practice has been abandoned in the public interest. Unless a man has at least four years to serve, he gets no stars. Most recent elevations to general rank have been of men about 58.

As a result, some of the brightest and ablest officers in the Army have been frustrated and retired because they had less than four years to serve. This rule was grossly violated to their great surprise in the case of General Davis. If it be said that it was done simply because he deserved it, then why was it not done four years ago? Then it could have meant something to General Davis. Now, since he can only serve one year, it is to him but an empty gesture, and to the Army complete disruption. Recently, promotion to the

grade of general has been made strictly on relative merit as disclosed by the officer's whole record of rated efficiency in 25 or more years of service. General Davis is an excellent man, but there are literally scores of officers in the age-groups from which generals are made whose records rate much higher.

NOT A CAVALRYMAN

Finally, General Davis, who is not a cavalryman, is to command a cavalry brigade, in two Negro regular regiments of which all or nearly all of the officers are white, from the grade of colonel down. That just doesn't work. I say that as a matter of cold hard fact, not prejudice. Colonel Young's case was a miraculous exception. General Davis is not Colonel Young. It would shatter the spirit of those regiments.

It has been suggested that, to avoid this result, all the white officers could be transferred out. Negro officers in the Reserve Corps would be called to active duty and put in command of these regular regiments, squadrons and troops.

To anybody who knows the Army, that is a shocking suggestion. In the first place, except in close association with professionals, run of mill amateur officers are utterly incompetent to command regular troops. Such a move would simply write two regiments off the roster so far as utility is concerned. In the second place, trained Negro troops are peers of the best soldiers on earth when commanded by white officers. As our whole experience shows, for some reason I leave to others to explain, they don't seem to like to serve under Negro officers and under such conditions they never have done well. Frequently they have done disastrously.

DONE ON ELECTION EVE

In view of all facts, why was this done on the eve of election—for efficiency of the Army and national defense? Obviously for politics and the Negro vote and at a cost of so great a destruction of morale and efficiency that it can scarcely be measured.

The curse of our Army up to 1917 was politics and favoritism in the appointment of officers. It lost battles and the lives of tens of thousands. In the Civil

War it threatened the union. Woodrow Wilson abolished it with one clean sweep. Franklin Roosevelt is restoring it with reckless, ruthless abandon. If an act was needed to raise a doubt of his leadership in defense, this is it.

It wasn't even good politics. Negroes are not fools. They are as shrewd as any other Americans. They will see the emptiness of the tricky political gesture. The indorsement of Mr. Willkie by their idol, Joe Louis, is ten times more important to them.

Roosevelt names First Negro Army General in U.S. History

WASHINGTON, — President Roosevelt broke another tradition last week when he startled conservative war department and army officials by promoting Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Coast Artillery, formerly New York National Guard to the rank of brigadier General in the United States army.

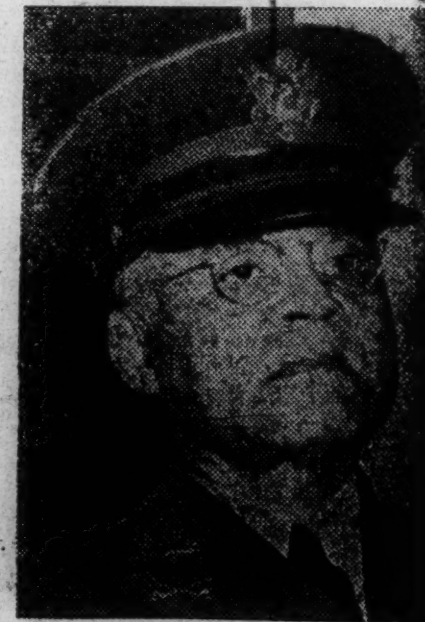
General Davis has been tentatively selected to command a brigade in the 2nd cavalry division at Fort Riley, Kansas; but official announcement of this action has not been made.

When reached at his home in New York, the new brigadier general said: "Of course I'm happy, although the only news I have of it thus far is what I've heard over the radio and seen in the newspapers. Everybody is happy to receive a promotion. I have received no official notice as yet, but, as you probably know, such actions have to go to the Senate for approval so it may be a little while before I do."

In reply to questions as to his future field of activity: "Well, generals don't command regiments, you know, but I really can't say what Orders I will receive. I'm afraid you'll have to wait until official announcement is made."

General Davis and son Captain Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., are the only Negro line officers in the army. Captain Davis, A West Point graduate, had such high academic standing at the academy that he ranked all the officers assigned to infantry.

General Davis was educated in Washington, D.C., public schools



BRIG. GEN. DAVIS

and at Howard University. He served in the Spanish American war, and in the summer of 1930 accompanied a contingent of G.I. Star Mothers to France. He served for many years with the 9th and 10th cavalry and the 24th infantry.

Before coming to the 369th he was both military instructor and commander of the outfit.

Only Colored National Guard Unit In Maryland Led By Race Captain Advanced in Rank

DEC 7 1940

DEC 21 1940

BALTIMORE, Md. — (ANP) — Holder of the French Croix de Guerre with silver star, Captain William Creigler will leave in January with his first separate company of infantry for a year's federal service.

Captain Creigler, born August 26, 1884, is a native Baltimorean, who was graduated from the old Baltimore High School for Negro children. He enlisted April 18, 1904, as a private in the first separate company, which had been recognized as part of the Maryland National Guard two years before and has been a member of the company since.

He was a corporal in 1913, sergeant in 1915, and went overseas with his outfit as first sergeant. After the World War, he was directed to reorganize the company and did so in August, 1921. He was promoted from sergeant to captain the following month and given command of the company, a post he has held since.

Captain Creigler's company was the first national guard outfit to leave Maryland after the United States entered the World War as Company 1 of the 367th Infantry, arrived in France in April, 1918, and went almost immediately into action.

During one of the battles in the Argonne forest, every officer in the company was wounded and put out of action. Sergeant Creigler took command of the outfit and led the men in an attack. For this feat of initiative and valor, he was awarded the coveted Croix de Guerre.

A letter carrier in the Baltimore postoffice for 21 years, he is married and has one son, Oliver, who is a private, first class, in his father's outfit.

Captain Creigler is 5 feet 5 1-2 inches tall, weighs 165 pounds, and says his hobby is "everything military."



Major William Creigler (left) and Captain Leroy Clay, of the 372nd Infantry, formerly the First Separate Company of Maryland, who were promoted from captain and lieutenant, respectively, last week.

Two Get Rank of Army Major

DEC 21 1940

ANNAPOLIS—In an unprecedented move, Governor Herbert R. O'Connor on

Thursday, announced the appointment of two majors in the colored, national guard unit, the first in the

history of the company, and promotions of four other ranking officers.

Captain William Creigler, commanding officer of the service company of the 372nd Infantry, formerly known as the First Separate Company of Maryland National Guard, was appointed major and chief supply officer of the infantry.

Capt. Holmes Shares Honors

Sharing top honors with Captain Creigler is Captain J. Albert Holmes of the Officers' Reserve Corps, who, likewise, was appointed major, assigned to the infantry headquarters as plans and training officer.

Lieut. LeRoy A. Clay, former platoon commander, and second lieutenant of the service company, was promoted to captaincy of the unit as the youngest captain in the entire Maryland National Guard units, including the white companies.

Dr. John Thomas Sydnor, Provident Hospital interne, was appointed first lieutenant of the medical corps of the service company; Vernon Green of the Officers' Reserve Corps was appointed first lieutenant, and Sergeant William H. Holliday of the service company, was promoted to first lieutenant.

"Happy," Says Governor

In presenting the commissions to Major Creigler and Captain Clay, Governor O'Connor said:

"I am indeed happy to have this signal honor of making these appointments, the first in the history of Maryland, and I am equally as certain that you, realizing the importance of the appointments, will shoulder the responsibility as creditably as your records in the old First Separate Company indicated. Again I say, this is a very gratifying honor to me."

Lieut. Col. Cary Jarmon of the Twenty-ninth Division of the National Guard presented the officers to the governor. In a statement to the AFRO, the lieutenant said:

"The record these officers have established in the First Separate Company justifies their promotions. These appointments and promotions are in keeping with the importance of the unit which is reflected in the number of ranking officers."

Others to Follow

These appointments, most of which have been rumored in guard circles for sometime, will be followed soon by others with in the lower ranking officers of

the unit and, according to authentic sources, will be made before the company leaves Baltimore for a one-year period of training.

This training, it was learned, will begin around March 15, instead of early in January as was originally planned. The entire 372nd Infantry, composed of battalions from Ohio, New Jersey, and Massachusetts, the service company from Maryland, and the headquarters' company from the District of Columbia, will train at Fort Dix in New Jersey.

Tentative Organization Lineup

The tentative table of organization as regards the official headquarters' family of the regiment is scheduled to consist of a colonel from the Ohio unit, a lieutenant colonel from the Massachusetts unit, Major Holmes from the Maryland unit, an adjutant from Ohio with the rank of captain; six medical officers, a major and captain from Ohio, and captains from Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, and the District of Columbia; a dental officer with the rank of captain from New Jersey, and two chaplains, one from Massachusetts to be rated captain, and a lieutenant chaplain from the District of Columbia.

The peacetime strength of the entire 372nd Infantry is approximately 1290 enlisted men which number will be increased by a like number of conscripted trainees from civilian life, next spring.

WARFIELD RESIGNS

Position As Head of 8th Goes to Dawson.
DEC 21 1940

CHICAGO, Dec. 19. (ANP)

With the resignation of Col. William J. Warfield from the post of commanding officer of the 184th Field Artillery comes the appointment of Dr. Julian Dawson, 52-year-old senior attending surgeon on the Provident Hospital staff.

Colonel Dawson, formerly lieutenant-colonel of the old Eighth Regiment (recently converted into the 184th Field Artillery unit of the National Guard) saw service overseas during the World War when he served as regimental surgeon in the 365th Infantry, the

317th ammunition train and with several divisions in France. The retired Colonel Warfield has left the National Guard to devote his time to his duties as representative of the Fifth Senatorial District.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 OFFICERS

Columbia, S. C. State
October 30, 1940

PASS IN REVIEW

Gen. Hugh S. Johnson

Boston, Oct. 29—Benjamin O. Davis, Negro, just appointed brigadier general, is a fine man. He has won the respect of his fellow officers by 42 years of service in a most difficult situation. One of the greatest of Negro-Americans, Col. Charles Young, once said to me: "If I wanted complete revenge on a super-enemy, I wouldn't send him to hell. I would make him a Negro officer in a white army." Colonel Young himself stood that so well, that even young Southern white officers felt privileged to serve in his command. He was one of the ablest and most cultured officers of his time.

This column has no racial or religious prejudices. It has frequently insisted on recognition, without discrimination, of Negro talent in every calling. But the appointment of General Davis is terrible, not because he is a Negro, but because it is rank discrimination against his brother officers, ruinous to the army, and a second great step in the destruction of morale and the success of the draft. The appointment of Elliott Roosevelt was the first.

Colonel Davis has only one year left to serve. Formerly it was a practice to appoint old colonels to be generals on the eve of their compulsory retirement at 64. For years this practice has been abandoned in the public interest. Unless a man has at least four years to serve, he gets no stars. Most recent elevation to general rank have been of men about 58.

As a result, some of the brightest and ablest officers in the army have been frustrated and retired because they had less than four years to serve. This rule was grossly violated to their great surprise in the case of General Davis. If it be said that it was done simply because he deserved it, then why was it not done four years ago? Then it could have meant something to General Davis. Now, since he can serve only one year, it is to him but an empty gesture, and to the army complete disruption.

Recently, promotion to the grade of general has been made strictly on relative merit, as disclosed by the of-

ficer's whole record of rated efficiency in 25 or more years of service. General Davis is an excellent man, but there are literally scores of officers in the age-groups from which generals are made whose records rate much higher.

Finally, General Davis, who is not a cavalryman, is to command a cavalry brigade, two Negro regular regiments, of which all or nearly all the officers are white, from Colonel down. That just doesn't work. I say that as a matter of cold hard fact, not prejudice. Colonel Young's case was a miraculous exception. General Davis is not Colonel Young. It would shatter the spirit of those regiments.

It has been suggested that, to avoid this result, all the white officers could be transferred out. Negro officers in the reserve corps would be called to active duty and put in command of these regular regiments, squadrons and troops.

To anybody who knows the army, that is a shocking suggestion. In the first place, except in close association with professionals, run of mill amateur officers are utterly incompetent to command regular troops. Such a move would simply write two regiments off the roster so far as utility is concerned. In the second place, trained Negro troops are peers of the best soldiers on earth when commanded by white officers. As our whole experience shows, for some reason I leave to others to explain, they don't seem to like to serve under Negro officers and under such conditions they have never done well. Frequently they have done disastrously.

In view of all facts, why was this done on the eve of election—for efficiency of the army and national defense? Obviously for politics and the Negro vote, and at a cost of so great a destruction of morale and efficiency that it can scarcely be measured.

The curse of our army up to 1917 was politics and favoritism in the appointment of officers. It lost battles and the lives of tens of thousands. In the Confederate war it threatened the Union. Woodrow Wilson abolished it with one clean sweep. Franklin Roosevelt is restoring it with reckless, ruthless abandon. If an act were needed to raise a doubt of his leadership in defense, this is it.

It wasn't even good politics. Negroes

are not fools. They are as shrewd as any other Americans. They will see the emptiness of the tricky political gesture. The endorsement of Mr. Willkie by their idol, Joe Louis, is ten times more important to them.

HUGH S. JOHNSON.
Gadsden, Ala., Times
October 25, 1940

Promotions For Army Are Made

Negro Is Elevated To General's Post; New Assignments Given

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today announced the promotion of Col. Benjamin O. Davis to become the first negro general in the army's history.

Davis' elevation, to be a brigadier general, was among a number of high rank promotions which Mr. Roosevelt said were required by the increase of the army.

Maj. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commander of the GHQ air force, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general, the same rank held by commanders of the army corps.

In the air corps, in addition to General Emmons, the following promotions were announced:

Brig. Gen. John F. Curry, air district commander, to be major general.

Col. Clinton W. Russell, chief of staff, GHQ air force, to be brigadier general.

Colonels John C. McDonnell, John B. Brooks, and Carlyle H. Wash, all wing commanders, to be brigadier generals.

Corps and division commanders promoted were:

To be major generals: Brig. Gen. Walter K. Wilson; Brig. Gen. Ernest D. Peek; Brig. Gen. Fulton Q. C. Gardner (coast and anti-aircraft commander in Hawaii); Brig. Gen. Sanderford Jarman (coast and anti-aircraft commander, Panama Canal Zone).

To be brigadier generals: Colonels Forrest E. Willford, Sandy

Hook, N. J.; Arthur G. Campbell, Virginia Beach, Va.; Robert C. Garrett, Portland, Me.

Col. Joseph A. Atkins, now on the army chief of staff, was promoted to be a brigadier general.

Lieut. Col. Lewis B. Hershey, executive of the selective service system, was promoted to be a brigadier general in the field artillery.

Colonel Davis, a brigade commander, and Col. Jack W. Heard, commandant of the armored force school, were promoted to be brigadier generals in the cavalry.

Pensacola, Fla. Journal
October 30, 1940

GEN. JOHNSON'S COMMENTS

By HUGH S. JOHNSON

BOSTON—Col. Benjamin O. Davis (colored), just appointed brigadier general, is a fine man. He has won the respect of his fellow officers by 42 years of service in a most difficult situation. One of the greatest of Negro-Americans, Col. Charles Young, once said to me: "If I wanted complete revenge on a super-enemy, I wouldn't send him to hell. I would make him a Negro officer in a white army." Colonel Young himself stood that so well that even young southern white officers felt privilege to serve in his command. He was one of the ablest and most cultured officers of his time.

This column has no racial or religious prejudices. It has frequently insisted on recognition, without discrimination, of Negro talent in every calling. But the appointment of General Davis is terrible, not because he is a Negro, but because it is rank discrimination against his brother officers, ruinous to the Army, and a second great step in the destruction of morale and the success of the draft. The appointment of Elliott Roosevelt was the first.

COLONEL DAVIS has only one year left to serve. Formerly it was a practice to appoint old colonels to be generals on the eve of their compulsory retirement at 64. For years this practice has been abandoned in the public interest. Unless a man has at least four years to serve, he gets no stars. Most recent elevations to general rank have been of men about 58.

As a result, some of the brightest and ablest officers in the Army have been frustrated and retired because they had less than 4 years to serve. This rule was grossly violated to their great surprise in the case of General Davis. If it be said that it was done simply because he deserved it, then why was it not done four years ago? Then it could have meant something to General Davis. Now, since he can only serve one year, it is to him but an empty gesture, and to the Army complete disruption.

Recently, promotion to the grade of general has been made strictly on relative merit as disclosed by the officer's whole record of rated efficiency in 25 or more years of service. General Davis is an excellent man, but there are literally scores of officers in the age groups from which generals are made whose records rate much higher.

Finally, General Davis, who is not a cavalryman, is to command a cavalry brigade, two Negro regular regiments of which all or nearly all the officers are white, from the grade of colonel down. That just doesn't work. I say that as a matter of cold hard fact, not prejudice. Colonel Young's case was a miraculous exception. General Davis is not Colonel Young. It would shatter the spirit of those regiments.

IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED that, to avoid this result, all the white officers could be transferred out. Negro officers in the reserve corps would be called to active duty and put in command of these regular regiments, squadrons and troops.

To anybody who knows the Army, that is a shocking suggestion. In the first place, except in close association with professionals, run of mill amateur officers are utterly incompetent to command regular troops. Such a move would simply write two regiments off the roster so far as utility is concerned. In the second place, trained Negro troops are peers of the best soldiers on earth when commanded by white officers. As our whole experience shows, for some reason I leave to others to explain, they don't seem to like to serve under Negro officers and under such conditions they have never done well. Frequently they have done disastrously.

IN VIEW of all facts, why was this done on the eve of election—for efficiency of the Army and national defense? Obviously for politics and the Negro vote and at a cost of so great a destruction of morale and efficiency this is can-

scarcely be measured. The curse of our Army up to 1917 was politics and favoritism in the appointment of officers. It lost battles and the lives of tens of thousands. In the Civil war it threatened the Union. Woodrow Wilson abolished it with one clean sweep. Franklin Roosevelt is restoring it with reckless, ruthless abandon. If an act was needed to raise

THE NATIONAL SCENE

President: Political Man

NOV 8 1940
Last week, with the 1940 Presidential election almost at hand, Franklin Roosevelt's last-minute active campaign for votes was half over. Three of his major speeches had been delivered, and three more lay ahead—the last to be at his Hyde Park, N. Y., home the night of November 4.

The President was definitely the political man intent on re-election. Following his Philadelphia speech (PATHFINDER Nov. 2), he returned to the White House and there attacked the widespread rumor that he intended to resign, if victorious, on November 5, and turn the Presidency over to his Vice Presidential running mate, Henry Wallace. Asked if he would serve a full four-year term if re-elected and "God willing," he said em-



International

General Davis: The First in History

PATHFINDER
phatically: "Of course." He thanked the reporter for saying "God willing." From Washington, Roosevelt went to New York City for his second major campaign address. Like the Philadelphia speech, the one in New York was an attack on what he called the G. O. P.'s "falsifications of fact," particularly charges that he had bungled in the fields of national defense and foreign affairs.

"Today," said Roosevelt, "our Navy . . . ship for ship, and man for man, is as powerful and efficient as any that ever sailed the seas. . . Our Navy and our air forces are now at the highest level they have ever been in

peacetime." The Republican record of "timidity, weakness and shortsightedness," Roosevelt went on, was "as bad in international as in military affairs." NOV 9 1940

After returning to Washington to preside at the draft lottery (see page 5), the President set out for Boston to make his third major campaign address. En route, he visited New England defense plants and made several rear-platform talks, in which he repeatedly warned his audiences not to be taken in by the attempt to inject "fear into the hearts of American citizens."

PATHFINDER
In part, Roosevelt's Boston address was another defense of his preparedness program and a denunciation of the Republican record on it. In part it was an attack on Republican charges that the New Deal's farm program had been a failure. He declared that farm income this year was double what it was in 1932; that farm buying power this year was double what it was in 1929; that over 1,000,000 farms had been electrified since 1933, and that "tens of thousands" of farms had been saved from foreclosure. In part, too, the speech was a reiteration of his pledge not to get involved in foreign wars. To the nation's "mothers and fathers," he said: "Your boys are not going to be sent into any foreign wars. They are going into training to form a force so strong that, by its very existence, it will keep the threat of war far away from our shores."

But the speech was most important because it contained an announcement that the Administration was preparing to give greater aid to Britain. The President declared he had sent to the new Priorities Board, with his suggestion for "most sympathetic consideration," a British order for 12,000 more war planes, which would bring to 26,000 the total number of planes which the United States would undertake to supply to Britain. He also disclosed that large additional British orders were "being negotiated for artillery, machine guns, rifles and tanks with equipment and ammunition." The United States would be "following hard-headed self-interest" in accepting these new British orders, Roosevelt declared, because "the plant capacity necessary to produce all of this military equipment is and will be available to serve the needs of the United States in any emergency."

Other developments in the President's week included these:

• In a radio address to the *Herald-Tribune* Forum on Current Problems, he firmly denounced "the foreign

propagandists who seek to divide us with their strategy of terror," their "slanders to our democracy." The dictators had their answer, he said, in the U. S. defense program.

• When some Negro leaders hotly criticized the War Department's statement on the use of Negroes in the Army as "Jim Crowism," (it had been announced that Negro and white troops would be segregated, among other things), Roosevelt took steps to pacify them. In a letter to Walter White, secretary of the National Asso-

ciation for the Advancement of Colored People, he declared that further developments of policy in regard to national defense "will be forthcoming to insure that Negroes are given fair treatment on a non-discriminatory basis." In addition, he promoted Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Coast Artillery regiment of the New York National Guard to be a Brigadier General—the first Negro Brigadier General in the Army's history. Immediately, the President's opponents attacked this as a purely political move, calculated to swing the Negro vote to his side on election day.

• While campaigning, the President kept in constant touch with Secretary of State Cordell Hull on the outbreak of the Greco-Italian war (see page 7) and on reports of French "collaboration" with the Nazis (see below).

HOOPER NAMED TO SUCCEED DAVIS AS LEADER OF 369th

Pittsburgh, Pa.
Popular Lieutenant Colonel, Lawyer By Profession, Takes Over Job of General Davis—Reported Youngest Regimental Commander in State.

NOV 16 1940
By MORGEN S. JENSEN
(Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK, Nov. 14—Governor Herbert H. Lehman gave definite assurance last Friday that a Negro would continue to head the local Harlem regiment when he announced the promotion of Lieut. Col. Chauncey M. Hooper to command the 369th Coast Artillery, Negro anti-aircraft regiment of the New York National Guard, with the rank of colonel, to succeed Col. Benjamin O. Davis, recently promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

Col. Hooper is 46 years of age. He was born in Jersey City, N. J. He considers himself a Harlemite, however, inasmuch as his parents moved to New York City when he was but a youngster. He received his education in the New York schools and was graduated in law from Fordham university. He and his wife, Mrs. Martha Hooper, reside here at 188 W. 135th street.

Col. Hooper is the first Negro to rise through New York State military ranks to command of a major unit in the National Guard. He is also reputedly the youngest regimental commander in New York State.

Brigadier General Davis, Staff Guests in Jersey

NOV 23 1940
PLAINFIELD, N. J.—Brigadier General B. O. Davis and the staff of the 369th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Regiment, N. Y., were entertained at dinner on Sunday afternoon by Dr. J. Earle Stuart, of 552 East Second St.

Dr. Stuart was formerly a captain in the medical corps of the 369th and surgeon to the First Battalion. He resigned to become director of the Negro Health program of the New Jersey State Department of Health.

Others at the dinner included Colonel Chauncey M. Hooper, who was appointed recently to succeed General Davis as commanding officer of the regiment; Major Wilmer F. Lucas, commander of the First Battalion; Major Robert E. Carter, M. C.,

regimental surgeon; Lieut. Scott S. McKnight, D. C., regimental dental surgeon; Lieut. Frank E. Steele, M. C., surgeon to the First Battalion.

The dinner group engaged in reminiscences of the infantry days of the 369th and predictions for the future training period at Fort Ontario at Oswego, N. Y., where the regiment will practice the defensive tactics and use of anti-aircraft weapons.

They have no children.

Col. Hooper served in France with his regiment, which was then known as the 15th Infantry "Hell Fighters," as a battalion sergeant major and second lieutenant, having enlisted before the start of the World War in 1916.

LEHMAN TELEPHONES HIM GREETINGS

He was appointed to a clerkship in the District Attorney's office from a civil service list in 1919, and three years later the late Judge John F. McIntyre of General Sessions appointed him as his secretary, a post which he retained when Judge Donnellan mounted the General Sessions bench in 1927 on the death of Judge McIntyre. An attorney, he was a member of the 1838 State Constitutional Convention.

When interviewed here last Saturday morning at his home, the newly-elevated regimental commander was made unusually happy by an unexpected surprise: Governor Lehman had just finished

making a personal telephone call to Col. Hooper, offering congratulations.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENCE- 1940 OFFICERS

Alexandria, Va. Gazette
October 25, 1940

FDR Shatters Army Custom

Negro Is Appointed As Brigadier General

President Roosevelt today promoted Col. Benjamin O. Davis to be a Brigadier General, making him the first Negro Brigadier in the history of the U. S. Army.

Mr. Roosevelt announced the promotion at a press conference along with several others.

The list of promotions was led by the advance of Maj. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commander of the GHQ air force, to be a Lieutenant General. The promotion gives Emmons the same rating as an Army Corps Commander. There are now six other Lieutenant Generals.

Mr. Roosevelt said this promotion was ordered on the theory that the GHQ air force is at least the equal in importance to a corps command.

The promotions also included the elevation of Lt. Col. Lewis B. Hershey, assistant selective service director, to the rank of Brigadier General. Hershey was acting draft director before the appointment of Clarence A. Dykstra.

Other promotions, Mr. Roosevelt said in a statement, are necessitated by expansion of the Army from 227,000 to 1,400,000 in the present fiscal year.

"This increased strength makes necessary the organization and activation of many new units," he said. "It permits a large expansion of the air corps. It increases many fold the activities and the size of our manufacturing arsenals and depots.

"This expansion cannot be carried out without proper leadership and proper rank must be accorded to these leaders. As the Army increases, as more new units and more training centers are set up, and as the selective service system brings new trainees in large numbers to the colors, additional temporary promotions will be necessary.

He said the advance of officers in the upper brackets will not interfere with advancement of younger men in the service.

Dodman, Ala. Eagle
October 25, 1940

Negro Colonel Named General

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Roosevelt today announced the promotion of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to become the first Negro general in the Army's history. Davis' elevation, to be a brigadier general, was among a number of high rank promotions which Mr. Roosevelt said were required by the increase of the Army.

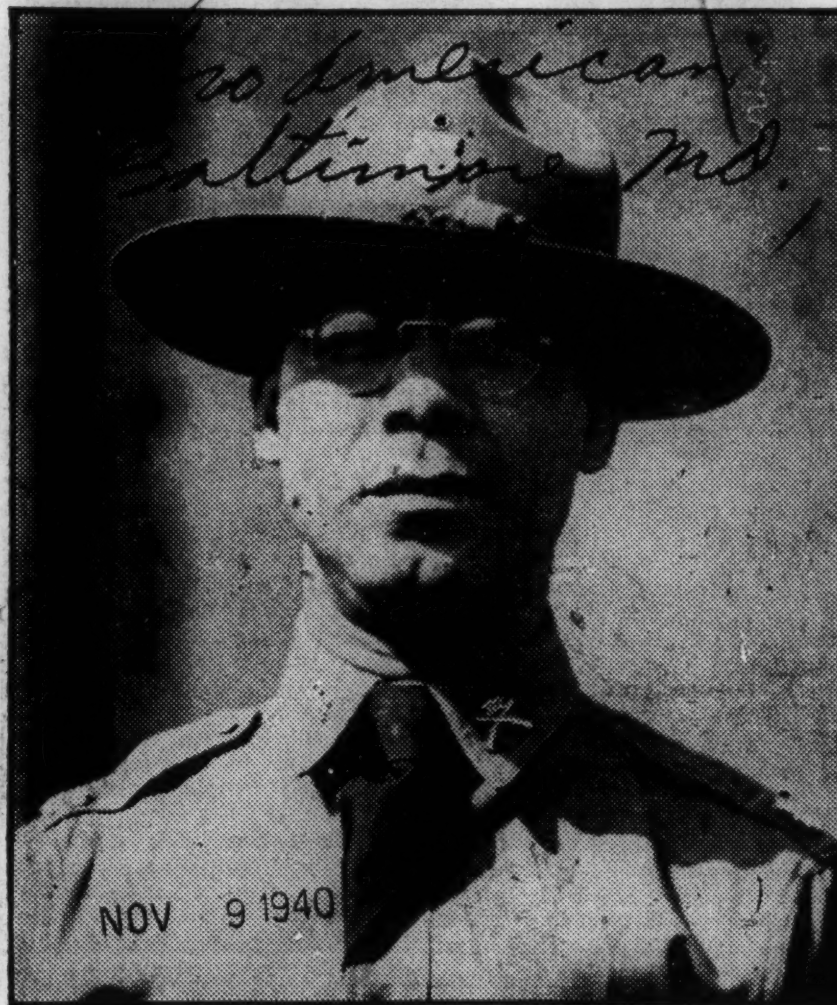
Major General Delos C. Emmons, commander of the GHQ air force, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general, the same rank held by commanders of the Army corps.

Durham, N. C., Morning Herald
November 1, 1940
FIRST NEGRO GENERAL



Promoted from colonel by the President, Brig. General Benjamin O. Davis is first Negro general in the history of the United States. He was moved up in the latest wave of promotions occasioned by strengthening of the army.

Guard Commander to Train at Ga. School



MAJ. ALEXANDER R. DAVIS

BOSTON—Major Alexander R. Davis, commanding officer of the Third Battalion, Massachusetts National Guard, has been ordered to report to the commandant of the infantry school at Fort Benning, Ga., not later than November 11, for training as a battalion commander and staff officer.

The order was issued by Governor Leverett Saltonstall, at the direction of Secretary of War Harry Woodring, through the chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Major Davis expects to leave for Fort Benning on November 8. Upon completion of the course on February 12, he may be ordered to report for duty with the

372nd infantry, of which the Massachusetts unit is a part, if the regiment has been called for duty by that time.

The first colored officer from his State to attend the infantry school, Major Davis, is expected to be in line for a promotion as a result of the course. He has maintained some military affiliation almost continually since 1910.

Dawson, Ga., News
October 31, 1940

DAVIS IS NAMED FIRST NEGRO U. S. GENERAL

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SAID PROMOTION WAS IN LINE WITH EXPANDING ARMY.

For the first time in the history of the United States army, a negro Colonel has been promoted to the rank of General. President Roosevelt announced the promotion of Benjamin O. Davis from the rank of Colonel to Brigadier-General.

Davis' elevation, it was announced, was among a number of high rank promotions which Mr. Roosevelt said were required by the increase of the army.

Colonel Davis, highest ranking of a relative handful of negro army officers, has had 42 years of military service. A native of Washington, D. C., he is 63.

Birmingham Ala. Age-Herald
November 20, 1940

Alabama's 447

Alabama will furnish 313 white men and 134 Negroes in the first draft call for military service from this state, the Fourth Corps Area headquarters has announced. Our young men are expected to enter military camps about Dec 13.

Four hundred and forty-seven, of course, is a small number of men to be conscripted from this state, but as military leaders have pointed out many times before the Southern states have sent an unusually large number of volunteers into the armed service.

This reduces the number of draftees from the South.

The first call for conscripted men from Alabama will hardly be a drop in the bucket in contrast to the thousands of names from which the army and navy have to select the draftees. For this reason it may be expected that the Alabama young men called to service will be carefully selected

for availability, physical condition and other factors that make for superior soldiers.

ROOSEVELT NAMES FIRST NEGRO ARMY GENERAL IN U. S. HISTORY

OCT 31 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President Roosevelt broke another tradition last week when he startled conservative war department and army officials by promoting Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Coast Artillery, formerly New York National Guard to the rank of brigadier general in the United States army.

General Davis has been tentatively selected to command a brigade in the 2nd cavalry division at Fort Riley, Kansas, but official announcement of this action has not been made.

When reached at his home in New York, the new brigadier general said: "Of course I'm happy, although the only news I have of it thus far is what I've heard over the radio and

seen in the newspapers. Everybody is happy to receive a promotion. I have received no official notice as yet, but as you probably know, such

actions have to go to the Senate for approval so it may be a little while before I do."

In reply to questions as to his future field of activity: "Well, generals don't command regiments, you know, but I really can't say what orders I will receive. I'm afraid you'll have to wait until official announcement is made."

General Davis and son Captain Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., are the only Negro line officers in the army. Captain Davis, a West Point grad-



BRIG. GEN. DAVIS

uate, had such high academic standing at the academy that he ranked all the officers assigned to infantry.

General Davis was educated in Washington, D.C., public schools and at Howard University. He served in the Spanish American war, and in the summer of 1930, accompanied a contingent of Gold Star Mothers to France. He served for many years with the 9th and 10th cavalry and the 24th infantry.

Before coming to the 369th he was both military instructor and commander of the outfit. Mobile, Ala. Press

October 30, 1940

First Draft Numbers Held by Colored Men

GREENVILLE, Ala., Oct. 30—(Special)—Lewis Madison, a Forest Home colored man, holds the local board's serial number 158, the first number drawn in the selective service national lottery for Butler County Local Board No. 1.

The second and third serial numbers, 192 and 105, effecting Butler County Board No. 1 are also held by colored men, Willie Brown and Lewis Carter.

It is not yet known here if the three are subject to immediate service or will be placed in the deferred classes.

NEW COLONEL SELECTED TO COMMAND 369th REGIMENT

He's Now A Colonel



Colonel CHAUNCEY M. HOOPER

Chauncey Hooper Named
By Gov. To Succeed
Brigadier Gen. Davis

NOV 16 1940

ALBANY, N. Y.—Governor Herbert H. Lehman on Friday promoted Lieut-Colonel Chauncey M. Hooper of New York City to command of the 369th Coast Artillery Regiment.

Colonel Hooper succeeds Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis who received his stars last week as the first Negro general in the regular army following his promotion from the rank of colonel by President Roosevelt two weeks ago. General Davis was assigned by the regular army two years ago as military instructor of the 369th Regiment and was also commissioned by Governor Lehman as colonel in command of the regiment. With his promotion to the rank of Brigadier General he has

resigned his state commission to return to active command in the regular army.

Colonel Hooper, an attorney who was delegate to the 1938 state constitutional convention in 1938, has long been an active figure in the Democratic party in New York City, at one time being groomed for leadership of the 19th Assembly District.

Colonel Hooper is a veteran of the World War serving with the Old 15th in France as a battalion sergeant major and second lieutenant. He joined the regiment before the start of the war.

Shortly after his return with the regiment he was appointed to a clerkship in the District Attorney's office from a civil service list, and three years later the late Judge John F. McIntyre appointed him as his stenographer in General Sessions Court, a position which he retained when Judge Donnellan mounted the bench in 1927 when Judge McIntyre died.

When changes were made in the officer personnel of the regiment, Hooper became the first Negro Major in the regiment and from that rank advanced to the position of Lieutenant Colonel three years ago as the first Negro to attain that rank. As Colonel in command of the regiment, Hooper now becomes the second Negro commander of the famous fighting unit.

With his wife he lives at 187 West 135th street. He is a member of the Old-Timers Club, having been active in the field of athletics while a member of the old St. Christopher Club of St. Philip's Church.

Conducts First Revue

Making his first appearance since being promoted, Col. Chauncey Hooper took charge of the monthly regimental review on Saturday night, November 9, which was held in honor of Brigadier General Joseph A. S. Mundy, commanding the 71st Field Artillery Brigade and former commanding officer of the 369th Infantry.

The review was witnessed by a capacity crowd of more than 5,000 spectators. It was preceded by a

concert by the 369th Coast Artillery Band with Warrant Officer Russell Wooding conducting.

The occasion was also in the nature of a farewell to Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, the retiring head of the regiment, who conducted the first part of the review and then turned his boys over to Colonel Hooper, who led the ceremonial regimental parade amidst the applause of the audience.

This was also a series of athletic events under direction of Captain Roy F. Morse, regimental athletic officer; and the presentation of medals of the following for long and faithful service:

Captain James W. Johnson, regimental adjutant; First Lieutenant William H. Uter, Battery B; Second Lieutenant Alex Dorsey, Battery C; Sergeant Albert Bristol, Battery D; and Sergeant James F. Simon, Battery B.

Knorrville, Tenn. News Sentinel
October 26, 1940

NEGRO NOW A GENERAL

By Associated Press
WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Col Benjamin O. Davis, U.S.A., has been promoted to brigadier-general of cavalry. He is the first Negro to be advanced to the grade of general officer in Army history. He is a veteran of 42 years of military service. He was assigned to command a brigade of Negro troops in the Second Cavalry Division.

Centreville, Ala. Press
October 24, 1940

Registration Is Short Of Estimate

Montgomery, Oct. 19.—Col. John T. Moore, state director of selective service registration, reported complete official totals for the entire state at 331,469—approximately 93,000 short of original draft estimates.

Colonel Moore said that every rural county in the state showed from 1000 to 2000 fewer than original estimates, total of which was estimated at 425,000.

The registration director reiterated a statement that the state has 425,000 men eligible for the draft and ascribed the shortage to failure of a large part of the Negro population to register.

It has been announced that those who failed to register will be given time to do so without being penalized.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 OFFICERS

GENERAL DAVIS

The promotion of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to the rank of brigadier general gives the Negro race its first officer to reach this exalted position in the armed forces of the United States. The announcement this week by the war department has inspired Negroes throughout the length and breadth of the country with a greater hope that the Negro will be given a bigger part in the general defense scheme of the country. Coming as it does, right on the eve of election, it has been asserted in some circles that the promotion of Colonel Davis and the recent appointment of several other Negroes to high positions in civil life by the administration, are merely a political trick to serve as bait for Negro voters. Even though this be the case and, of course, there is no certainty that it is, the appointments represent a gain to the race that is gratifying. Gains received through a play of politics, as those that come otherwise, are gratefully received by minority groups and should ever be welcomed. There is not a right-thinking Negro in the land who will not be proud of the honor that has come to America's ranking Negro army officer and give thanks to the President for the courage which he showed in making him a general. The race is fortunate in having a man so well qualified for the high position of general and feels that should he be placed in charge of the proposed Negro army division, it will be unquestionably responsible and efficient hands.

SENATE CONFIRMS GEN. B. O. DAVIS

WASHINGTON, D. C. (AP)—The senate Thursday confirmed President Roosevelt's nomination of Col. B. O. Davis to be promoted to the rank of brigadier general. General Davis is expected to be assigned to command a division made up of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalries with headquarters in Fort Riley, Kansas.

A Significant Promotion

NOV 1 1940

ACCORDING TO ARMY routine, the promotion of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to the rank of brigadier general, was long merited and due. And any further holdback on this promotion in the face of the promotions of others, not his seniors, would have been an adherence to a prejudice the army at this time could ill afford. On another hand a political repercussion might have come to the surface which might not enhance the fortune of the administration now before the bar for an endorsement. Be that as it may.

The promotion of Brigadier General Davis records an unprecedented era in the stride of the Negro group in this country in its great struggle for complete emancipation. For the sake of the record and for the inspiration and encouragement of those who have struggled through the years in what at times seems a fruitless effort, be it said that but for their contention this might have gone the way of many other debts long overdue the race.

All in all, it cannot be said that the President did not exhibit unusual courage.

Brigadier General Davis is hereby congratulated for his fine record and the highest award ever given a member of his race in its long history.

And may the rank and file gain the courage of hard struggle and the lesson that strenuous effort and organization are the essentials by which contenders down the ages have come to their just due.

HUGH JOHNSON: Hatchet Man •

NOV 9 1940

Men like General Hugh Johnson, Scripps-Howard columnist (or calumnist), are more dangerous than other enemies of the Negro because they advance behind the smoke screen of friendship.

Johnson's column of October 28 was a prize example of his work as hatchet man for America's Negrophobes.

Since the birth of the Republic all Negrophobic propagandists have circulated the canard that (a) Negro soldiers fight best under white officers, that (b) Negro soldiers dislike Negro officers and that (c) along with incapacity of Negro officers is the impossibility of having white officers serving under them. Thus, Negro officers must not be appointed.

In Johnson's column he criticizes the appointment of Col. Benjamin O. Davis to the rank of brigadier general, asserting that "there are literally scores of officers in the age groups from which generals are made whose records rate much higher." But he does not name the white officers who are superior to this colored officer, nor tell why they are superior.

Johnson weeps that "General Davis (who) is not a cavalryman, is to command a cavalry brigade, two Negro regular regiments of which all or nearly all the officers are white, from the grade of colonel down. That just doesn't

work. I say that as a matter of cold hard fact, not prejudice."

Of course everybody familiar at all with the U. S. Army knows that General B. O. Davis IS AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN A CAVALRY OFFICER. There is little infantry service, if any, to his credit. But even if he were an infantry officer that would not disqualify him from commanding cavalry. General Pershing was a cavalry officer, yet he commanded the whole American Expeditionary Force.

In characteristic hatchet man fashion, Gen. Johnson begins making General Davis' task difficult by reinforcing the idea in the minds of white officers that they are being imposed upon by the assignment of a colored general to command them. The experiment has never before been tried, but Johnson immediately trumpets that it "just doesn't work."

Johnson is emphasizing the Nazi-like racial exclusion policy that has dominated the philosophy of American militarists from Washington to Roosevelt.

As a supposed sop to Negroes after insulting them, he writes, "trained Negro troops are peers of the best soldiers on earth when commanded by white officers . . . (but) . . . they don't seem to like to serve under Negro officers and under such conditions they have never done well. Frequently they have done disastrously."

What we are told here is that the best trained Negro soldiers on earth would be shivering incompetents if led by Negro officers, but conquering heroes if led by Negro-hating white men.

We are told the deliberate lie that Negro troops under Negro officers have "never" done well, but have "done disastrously" with frequency. This flies right in the face of the facts and is disproved by the record of the Harlem and Chicago Negro National Guard regiments in France.

Men like Johnson never tell us how it happened that Haitian Negro soldiers commanded by Negro officers were able to defeat the cream of the French Army. Nor do they dwell upon the fact that the French General Dodds, a colored man leading black and white troops, conquered French West Africa.

Johnson is so eager to prove his point that the appointment of General Davis is made "at a cost of so great a destruction of morale and efficiency that it can scarcely be measured," that he makes the damaging admission that young Southern white officers used to like to serve under Colonel Charles Young because he was such a cultured man.

General Davis is also a cultured man, and if white officers serving under Col. Young did not cause "destruction of morale and efficiency," why will white service under Gen. Davis cause the army to go to the bow-wows? A general is farther removed from contact with most of his officers than is a colonel.

More angering and disheartening than the screed of the Negrophobic Gen. Johnson is the general evidence of American acceptance of his viewpoint.

But despite this widespread determination to keep the armed forces lily white, American Negroes intend to fight

even harder than they have been doing to break down the color bar in each and every branch of the service until the Army and Navy become democratic institutions.

He Is A Colonel Now

NOV 12 1940



NEW YORK—(INP)—Lieutenant-Colonel Chancey M. Hooper, of New York City, was promoted by Governor Herbert H. Lehman to command of the 369th Coast Artillery, colored unit of the New York National Guard, with the rank of Colonel. Colonel Hooper is the first Negro to rise through the ranks to command a major state military unit. He succeeds Colonel B. O. Davis, a Negro, whose promotion by President Roosevelt recently to Brigadier-General in the regular army makes him the first of his race to reach a regular army command through service in the federal ranks. Colonel Hooper is shown at his desk in the 369th Armory.

BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVIS

NOV 2 1940
PERSONAL HONOR came to a member of the Negro race and a resident of Harlem last week in the promotion of Col. Benjamin O. Davis to the rank of Brigadier General with an assignment to the Cavalry. And while we congratulate General Davis on this much deserved promotion, we cannot but feel that coming on the heels of the President's announced policy of Army discrimination, this is but an empty honor, insofar as useful service in his new capacity is concerned.

New York Age
The President has said that it has been the experience of the Army that it is unwise to mix white and Negro troops and that no Negro officers will be placed in command of white troops. Since there is no Negro cavalry brigade, we are forced to the conclusion that this promotion was a political move and that instead of seeing active service in his new command, General Davis will soon be retired.

New York N.Y.
Contrary to popular belief, the present commander of the 369th Anti-aircraft unit of the New York National Guard, is not the first brigadier general of his race. Col. William O. Warfield of the 8th Illinois Regiment was promoted to the rank of brigadier general shortly before his retirement.

The promotion of General Davis at this time, after being passed over several times, is in line with the President's policy of bestowing empty honors on the Negro, as was done in the issuing of a stamp in commemorative of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, which however good it seems does nothing to improve the economic or political condition of Negroes. In a similar manner President Roosevelt recently named Dr Channing H. Tobias to an advisory post on the Selective Draft Board. The advisory posts created under New Deal rule have been numerous but are usually without any executive authority.

Brigadier General Davis is one of the ablest and best trained men in the army today and won every promotion the hard way. Only the fact that his skin is dark, has prevented him from full participation in regular army life. We hope that the storm of protests against

the President's discriminatory policy brought about a change of policy and this promotion. We shall watch with interest to see if the President was sincere, and assigns General Davis to active duty in his new command. If he fails to do so, we can only conclude that this is but another clever political trick to win back the Negro voters who are deserting the New Deal party daily.

Both Former 369th Colonels

NOV 16 1940



Brigadier Generals B. O. Davis (left) and J. A. S. Mundy, photographed as they appeared at the 369th Regiment review at the armory last Friday night. Gen. Mundy, as a colonel, commanded the regiment prior to the coming of Gen. Davis.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE 1940
OFFICERS
RACE GENERAL



GEN. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS

Commandant of the 369th Infantry (anti-aircraft) of New York city, who last Friday was named to the rank of brigadier-general by President Roosevelt, becoming the first Negro in history to be so elevated. The new brigadier-general will command a brigade in a division of Negro cavalry soon to be formed.—Photo by International.

Gen. B. O. Davis First Negro To Attain Rank

New Interpretation

WASHINGTON.—Col. Benjamin O. Davis of the 369th infantry was promoted to the rank of brigadier general Friday. He will command a brigade in the second division of cavalry comprising the Ninth and Tenth regiments. The elevation which is a signal honor marks the first time in history that a Race soldier has received such an appointment.

Announcement of the promotion of Colonel Davis followed a conference held Friday when Dr. Frederick Patterson of Tuskegee institute, Dr. Rayford Logan of Howard university and Dr. Howard Long of the public schools of the district, visited the White House and discussed with the President other possibilities for Race participation in the national defense.

It is conceded in official circles that the meeting of Drs. Patterson, Logan and Long was far more successful than the September conference when Walter White, T. Arnold Hill and A. Philip Randolph met with Mr. Roosevelt and other officials. Shortly after their visit, the policy of strict separation of the races in the army was announced from the White House.

Arouses Anxiety

As members of the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program, Dr. Logan and Dr. Long presented the President a memorandum, it is said, the result of which is announced by Dr. Logan's group as follows:

"The White House release of October 10 had been subject to an interpretation that would permit the construction that eligible colored reserve officers would be assigned to only national guard units. This interpretation had aroused extreme apprehension among the colored people of the nation, because such a policy would represent one that is less liberal than that of President Woodrow Wilson and even than a policy that obtained in the Spanish American war and the American Civil war.

"The committee insisted in the conference that the interpretation should be that colored reserve officers should be assigned to extended active duty with projected units to be formed out of the men inducted under the Selective Service act and left with the impression that this interpretation is the correct one."

According to one member of the committee, this means that there will be openings in the newly formed units including colored reserve officers, that medical and dental men will also be included in the newly created setups and that there will be a wider participation by colored reserve officers than previously anticipated.

Only 2 Officers

Recently assigned to the 369th infantry after serving in various capacities as military instructor at Tuskegee and at Wilberforce, General Davis has won the admiration of his new charge by his ability as a military man. His record at the war department and in the army guide has often been referred to as a model.

The promotion, said the President, was made because of the requirements of the increase in the size of the army and is in accordance with the recently announced policy that Negroes will be given the same military training as white soldiers, but they will get it in separate outfits.

General Davis and his son are the only two Negro officers in the regular army. Both are natives of Washington, the elder Davis having been born here July 1, 1877, and his son, Lieutenant Davis, now R.O.T.C. instructor at Tuskegee institute, having been born here in 1912.

Brigadier General Spencer C. Dickerson of the national guard has been retired.

NOV 2 1940

Davis' Promotion Climaxes Long Career In Army

NOV 2 1940
By EDGAR T. ROUZEAU

NEW YORK—Those in Harlem who are not busy drinking toasts to the health of America's first Negro general, Benjamin Oliver Davis, may be classified into two groups—the ones who believe that they are "solely responsible for the nation-wide wave of protest which brought about the promotion," and those who are using the said promotion as a political football.

While the churches, civic agencies and the NAACP fight it out for the lion's share of the credit, the Democrats and Republicans are at each other's throats and nails. The Democrats contend that the High Command of the Army, controlled by southerners, would have left Col. Davis out in the cold if President Roosevelt had not intervened, and the Republicans maintain that although the promotion was fully merited, it was "only granted in the hope of halting a serious defection of Negro voters from Democratic ranks and was a cheap political trick."

"AM GRATIFIED"

The man most concerned seems to have less to say about the matter than anybody else. He is General Davis, present commander of the 369th Coast Artillery Regiment of Harlem and the first member of his race to be named a general officer of the Army in this country's history. All he would say of his promotion was, "Naturally, I am gratified."

One effect of the Army announcement was to rob a Harlem mass meeting of one of its principal rallying points. The meeting, held Sunday afternoon at the Golden Gate Ballroom under the auspices of the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee for Equal Rights in Defense, was to have protested, among other things, the fact that Col. Davis was not included in a long list of generals whose promotions were announced three weeks ago. As it was, the meeting was limited to a discussion of discriminatory policies against Negroes in the Army and Navy. The speakers included John A. Davis, chairman of the committee; the Rev. Adam C. Powell, pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, and Charles H. Houston, of Washington, special counsel for the N. A. A. C. P. Lester Granger of the National Urban

League staff, presided.

Mr. Davis issued the following statement: "It is unfortunate that the need for the action comes in the midst of a political campaign. The protest, though, must be made now and cannot be neglected for political expediency."

IN ARMY 42 YEARS

Col. Davis, a veteran of forty-two years of Army service, was assigned to the command of a yet unorganized brigade of Negro troops in the Army's 2nd Cavalry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas. The country's first Negro general is 63 years old and will reach the retirement age next year.

A native of Washington, he began his Army service as a first lieutenant of volunteers in a colored infantry regiment in the Spanish-American War. He was mustered out in 1899, but reinstated and served in the ranks two years before receiving his first commission in the Regular Army, that of a second lieutenant of cavalry.

Subsequent promotions followed at long intervals. He served in Manila and on the Mexican border, was an instructor to the Ohio National Guard, commanding R. O. T. C. officer at Tuskegee Institute and at Wilberforce University, and was in charge of the colored Gold Star mothers who journeyed to France some years ago to visit the graves of their sons.

DEVELOPS REGIMENT

Two years ago, when the New York State National Guard Command deemed it advisable to have a Negro colonel at the head of its Harlem regiment as a gesture of appeasement to Harlem voters, the War Department was consulted and recommended Col. Davis. Regular white army officers were always assigned to the regiment as instructors, but inasmuch as Col. Davis superseded them in rank the High Army Command arranged for Col. Davis to accept a commission as colonel in the New York State National Guard while retaining his old Army rank and also named him as instructor to the Harlem regiment.

Under his command, the Harlem regiment became recognized as one of its finest in the state. Recently it was converted from a regiment of infantry to a Coast Artillery An-

ti-Aircraft unit.

In view of the Army's recent announcement that regular Army units made up of Negro troops would be commanded by white officers, "because the men were accustomed to this system and it provided for a greater degree of efficiency and higher morale," the assignment of Col. Davis to a brigade to be stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, provoked a great deal of speculation.

SEEN AS GODSEND

If the Army goes through with its announced policy, it would mean that although the troops would be colored, General Davis' staff would be made up of white officers. This is considered hardly likely, and predictions are being made freely in Army circles that the General Staff will soon announce another long list of Army promotions to take care of colored reserve officers, many of whom will then serve under General Davis.

Individuals not concerned with politics are inclined to feel that regardless as to whether President Roosevelt's hands were forced or whether he acted in good faith, the promotion of Col. Davis is a Godsend to Negroes seeking a career in the Army.

At the present time there are only five Negro line officers in the Regular Army, and three of them are chaplains.

Besides General Davis, the only other commanding officer is his son, Lt. B. O. Davis, Jr., who is serving as R. O. T. instructor at Tuskegee Institute.

A Paragapher's

.. DOTTINGS ..

By EBENEZER RAY

Hugh Johnson Objects!

Last Friday President Roosevelt promoted Colonel Benjamin O. Davis of the 369th Regiment (N.Y.) Coast Artillery to the rank of Brigadier General. Brigadier-General Davis is the first Negro to have been so honored in the United States.

In the midst of the political campaign persons diverted their attention for a while to congratulate Mr. Davis on the honor conferred upon him and to express their appreciation.

But the appointment aroused the ire of General Hugh S. Johnson, retired, columnist ex-boss of NRA, and arch-foe of the New Deal. General Johnson, in his column, says Mr. Davis is a "fine man. He has won the respect of his fellow officers by 42 years of service." But goes on the general: "Colonel Charles Young once said to me: 'If I wanted complete revenge on a super-enemy I wouldn't send him to hell. I would make him a Negro officer in a white army.'"

Besides being one of the unfettered madmen of which this country abounds, if anyone had any doubts as to what type of person General Johnson is, his objection to Colonel Davis' promotion clearly reveals him as a reactionary of the first water; a man who would adhere to all the moth-eaten traditions and practices of a prejudiced world. The Davis appointment does not coincide with all previous methods of appointment to generalships, so Johnson objects. "Colonel Davis has only one year left to serve. Formerly it was a practice to appoint old colonels to be generals on the eve of their compulsory retirement at 64," says Johnson. "For years this practice has been abandoned in the public interest. Unless a man has at least four years to serve he gets no stars. As a result, some of the highest and ablest officers in the army have been frustrated and retired because they had less than four years to serve. This rule," continues Johnson, "was grossly violated to their surprise in the case of General Davis."

Johnson further observes that Brigadier-General Davis is to command two Negro regiments of which all or nearly all of the officers are white. "That just doesn't work," he says. Even if these officers were replaced by Negro officers, it still wouldn't work, in the opinion of Johnson. Because, he points out, trained Negro troops are peers of the best soldiers on earth when commanded by white officers. . . . for some reason . . . they don't seem to like to serve under Negro officers.

Johnson says his theory isn't motivated by prejudice. Then he has been dead for at least a decade. He has failed to observe the passing of the old plantation Negro. He has failed to observe the birth of the New Negro, with his to-hell-with-it attitude towards things "lily-white" and the white-is-right theory. He has failed to observe the complete harmony with which Negroes and whites now work together in nearly all walks of life. Johnson, on a whole, has failed to observe that this is 1940, and not 1917.

Johnson says General Davis' promotion is a political move.

So is General Johnson's column.

And it is more than that. The undertaker should be called in for Columnist Hugh S. Johnson. He has been dead long enough to be interred.



EBENEZER RAY

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 OFFICERS

353 Listed As Eligible Negro Reserve Officers

NEW YORK. — (SNS) — At present there are 353 eligible Negro Reserve officers, according to Robert A. Patterson, Assistant Secretary of War.

353 Eligible Negro Reserve Officers, War Dept. Says

At present there are 353 eligible Negro Reserve officers, according to Robert A. Patterson, Assistant Secretary of War.

Patterson made the announcement in a letter to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in response to an inquiry filed with his office on October 1.

"The records of the War Department," the letter said, "indicate that a total of 4,926 Negro students have enrolled as freshmen in the Reserve Officers Training Corps at two schools having all Negro personnel. Of these, a total of 554 have completed the four-year R.O.T.C. course at these schools."

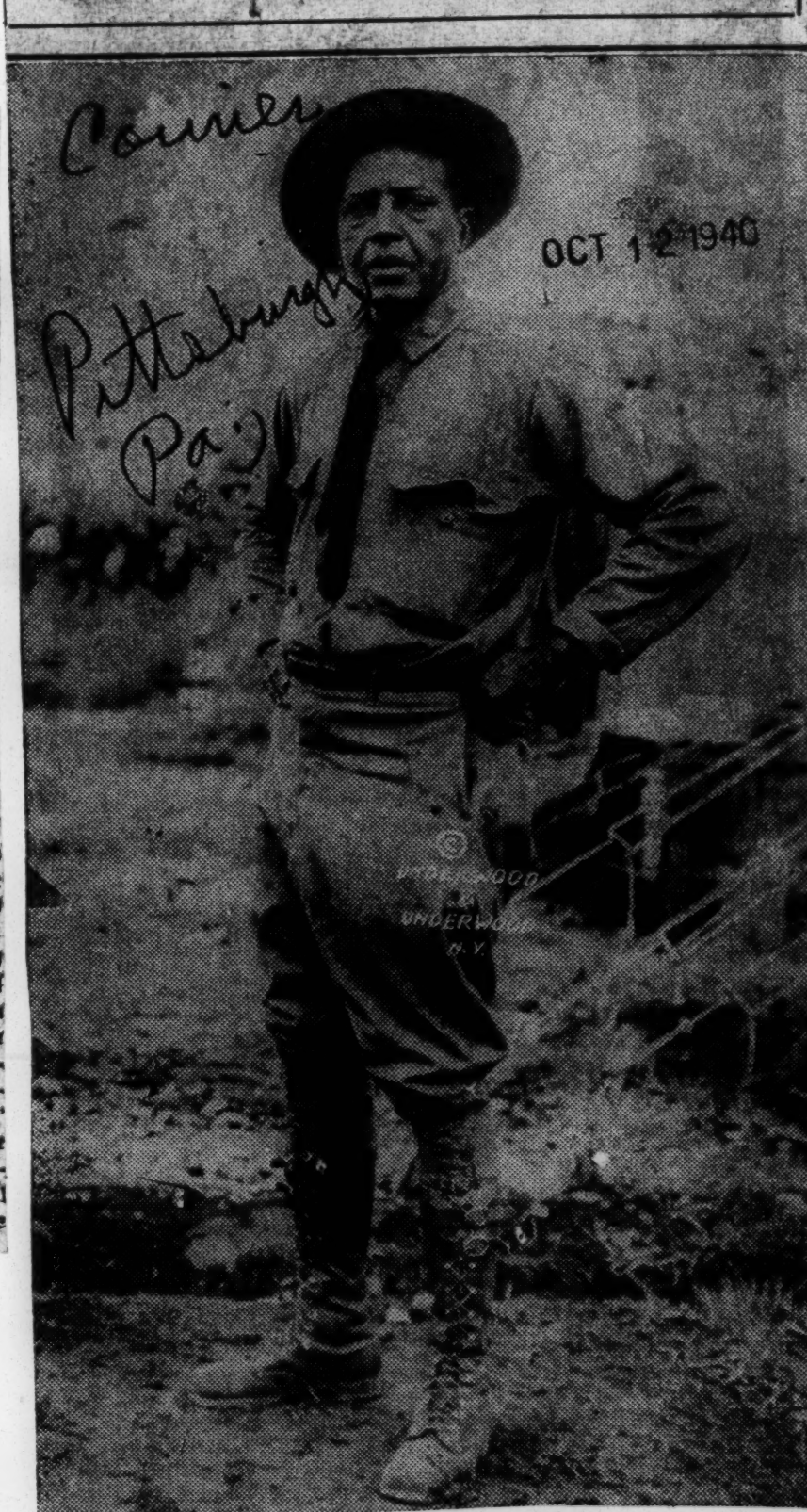
No information was available, according to the letter as to the race of students enrolled in the R.O.T.C. in mixed schools.

With the statement that both Colonel Benjamin O. Davis and his son, Lt. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., will normally remain on their present assignments until the summer of 1942, when they will complete their four-year tour of duty," the Assistant Secretary of War said that "it is impossible to predict what future assignments will be given to any officer of the Regular Army."

Brigadier General Post Sought For Col. Davis

OCT 12 1940
NEW YORK. — Walter White pointed out that the Race White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, urged this week that telegrams be sent to President Roosevelt and to congressmen asking that Col. Benjamin O. Davis be elevated to brigadier general.

HE WASN'T PROMOTED EITHER



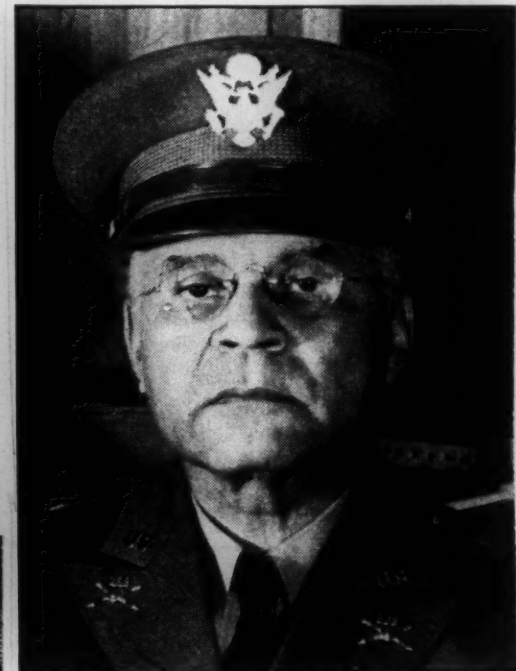
The late Col. Charles Young, who was also passed over in 1917 when white officers were promoted. The War Department said he was physically unfit. He rode horseback from Wilberforce, O., to Washington to prove his fitness. But the Army refused to call him to active service, finally sent him to Liberia to become the victim of a tropical disease.

ARMY

Blunder & Precedent

Last week the War Department, in trying to rectify a political blunder, broke a precedent as old as the Army. The blunder was the Administration's announcement, last month, that Negro soldiers would continue to be segregated from white troops in the expanded U. S. Army. The announcement put every big black community in the country on its ear, set newspapers and mass meetings crying "Jim Crow." Last week the Army did what it could to make amends: upped its only Negro colonel of Regulars to the rank of brigadier general.

Able, tea-colored Benjamin Oliver Davis, whose son, Captain B. O. Davis Jr., is the only other black line officer in the regular service, was the first man of his race to reach general officer rank in the



BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVIS
The Army did what it could.

NOV 4 1940

U. S. Army. Leaving his old command, Harlem's 369th Coast Artillery, General Davis will automatically break the Army's segregation rule: his new assignment is command of a new brigade to be composed of the 9th and 10th (colored) Cavalry. All the officers under his command are white men. The Army can still replace them with Negro reserve officers, but that would violate its statement of policy of last month, which also said that Negro regular Army outfits would continue to be commanded by white officers. The Army's easiest way out may be to wait until General Davis reaches retirement age (64) next July. By then the election will be over.

Army Raises Status of its Aviation Chiefs

Washington Post
**Arnold Given Third
Staff Place, Emmons
Army Head's Rank**

By John G. Norris
Post Staff Writer

The Army yesterday gave recognition to the increasing importance of the Air Corps in the military setup by assigning its chief to a new post of deputy chief of staff.

At the same time and reflecting the same trend, the commander of the General Headquarters Air Force, the Army's air combat units, was given the rank of lieutenant general. Maj. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, elevated to this rank, takes the same status in the Army hierarchy as the commanders of the four field armies.

Maj. Gen. Henry H. Arnold, named to a newly established post of deputy chief of staff, will have charge of coordination of all matters affecting aviation in the War Department. Named to act in his place as chief of Air Corps, was Maj. Gen. George H. Brett, at present an assistant to Arnold.

In another development, the Navy established a new command, embracing all of its aviation in the Atlantic, and assigned a veteran officer, Rear Admiral Arthur B. Cook to the post. He will be detached as commander of scouting force aircraft and become commander of patrol force aircraft, embracing the plane carriers Ranger and Enterprise, and all shore based aircraft in the Atlantic.

There was no hint, however, in this series of moves, that either the Army or Navy had abandoned its strong opposition to the creation of a separate air arm, equal to the land and sea forces. Many fliers and others, including Republican Presidential Candidate Wendell Willkie, have advocated that the United States follow the lead of Great Britain, Germany and most other major powers in this regard.

Colored General Named

President Roosevelt also disclosed the temporary promotion of 26 other officers to brigadier or major generals and the reassignment of several other ranking officers.

Among those advanced to brigadier general, was Col. Benjamin O. Davis, first Negro ever to be promoted to be a general officer. A native of Washington, Gen. Davis has spent 42 years in the military service.

Others promoted to brigadier general were Lieut. Col. Lewis B. Hershey, selective service headquarters executive; Col. Ulysses S. Grant, grandson of President U. S. Grant, and the commanders of the Army's six manufacturing arsenals. Grant will command a training center.

In promoting the commander of the GHQ Air Force, the War Department declared that the "time has now arrived" for it to return to its status as a "tactical fighting force." Established five years ago, for the past year the force has been mainly training new plane combat crews. Headquarters of the force will move shortly from Langley Field, Va., to Bolling Field here.

The reorganization of the Air Corps was made necessary, a War Department announcement said, by the air expansion program, which requires more prompt action and adds much detail to War Department work. Gen. Arnold will be the third deputy chief of staff.

Davis to Command Cavalry

Army officials said that it was planned that Gen. Davis would command a new brigade of the Second Cavalry Division, to be formed by the concentration of the Ninth, and Tenth Cavalry regiments at Fort Riley, Kans. These regiments have been scattered, one

troop of the Tenth having been stationed at Fort Myer, Va., for many years.

If the assignment is made, military men see some problems to be solved. Both the colored regiments now have white officers, and the only other colored officers in the Regular Army are Capt. Benjamin O. Davis of the Infantry, the new general's son, and three chaplains. Either colored reserve officers would have to be assigned to the new brigade, or the Army's long-standing policy of not assigning colored officers to duty with white officers set aside.

This rule was recently reaffirmed in a White House statement on the policy to be followed in regard to the services of negroes in the Army.

Colored leaders expressed dissatisfaction with the statement.

Gen. Davis, however, it was noted, is due for retirement for age next July.

Other promotions yesterday, creating in all, 26 temporary additional general officers in the Army, include:

To Be Major Generals

Brig. Gen. John F. Curry, air district commander.

Brig. Gen. Walter K. Wilson, corps commander.

Brig. Gen. Ernest D. Peek, corps commander.

Brig. Gen. Fulton Q. C. Gardner, who will command the coastal and anti-aircraft defenses of Hawaii.

Brig. Gen. Sanderford Jarman, who will have a similar post for the Panama Canal Zone.

To Be Brigadier Generals

Cols. John C. McDonnell, John B. Brooks and Carlyle H. Wash, Air Corps wing commanders.

Col. Clinton W. Russell, chief of staff, G. H. Q., Air Force.

Cols. Forrest E. Williford, Arthur G. Campbell and Robert C. Garrett, commanders of the coastal and anti-aircraft artillery at Sandy Hook, N. Y., Virginia Beach, Va., and Portland, Me.

Col. Joseph A. Atkins, chief of staff of an army.

Col. Jack W. Heard, commandant, armored force school.

Cols. Edward M. Shinkle, Gilbert H. Stewart, Rolland W. Case, Norman F. Ramsey, Alexander G. Gillespie and Walter P. Boatwright, commanders of Picatinny, Springfield, Rock Island, Watervliet and Frankfort Arsenals.

Col. William A. McCain, commander, Philadelphia quartermaster depot.

Col. Ray L. Avery, commander, Edgewood, Md., chemical warfare arsenal.

In another order, the War Department assigned Maj. Gen. Jay L. Benedict, superintendent at West Point, to command the Fourth Army Corps, with headquarters at Camp Blanding, Fla. At the same time, Brig. Gens. Oliver L. Spiller, Richard F. Cox and Edgard B. Colladay were assigned as commanders of anti-aircraft training centers at Fort Bliss, Tex.; Hinesville, Ga., and March Field, Cal.

THERE was much talk in the past few days about President Roosevelt's having promoted a regular army Negro colonel to the post of brigadier general and that this would place the Negro over white officers commanding the Negro cavalry over whom the Negro brigadier general would have direction.

The explanation of this action was that the president had made a mistake or pulled a pre-election boner by planning to have Negro soldiers separated or segregated from white soldiers. Negroes in those Northern states where they held a balance of power in votes began to shout "jim crow" soldiering, and something had to be done about it. Hence the promotion.

The Negro brigadier general will arrive at retirement age early next year, after the election, and can then be removed from the friction area in which he is now lodged.

A Negro General At Last!

It is good news to us who believe that Democracy will some day be realized in the United States to read in the newspapers that the responsible officers of the Army have finally decided to make a competent Negro soldier a general in the army of the greatest and most powerful single nation in the modern world. This is, of course, a recognition long overdue the Negro soldiers of this republic. In the last World War all informed people were of the opinion that the country did an injustice to Colonel Charles Young in refusing to make him a general on the pretext that he had high blood pressure, an ailment which only prejudiced army doctors could discover. The appointment of Davis is an example of the truthfulness of the old proverb that "you can't keep a good man down," that is not permanently.

Here in the United States every victory the Negro wins is tinged with some "fly in the ointment." The appointment of this Negro general is no exception. The white people of this country have not reached the point in civilization yet where they are willing for a Negro general to command white soldiers as well as black. We are still far, far away from Robert Burns' philosophy that a man's a man for a that" and so if we must have a Negro general we must confine him to a Negro army. The appointment of General Davis means that Roosevelt's policy of segregation in the army will "roll on" whether the New Deal does or not. But we must take the bitter with the sweet until we reach a higher plane of civilization.



Associated Press WIREPHOTO
COL. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS.

Need Of More Officers Poses Question To D.C. Officials

Urge Negro Reserve Officers Be Used in Training Draftees

SEP 27 1940

WASHINGTON (AP)—Do Negro soldiers prefer white officers? This question has caused quite a bit of argument among officials here and their attitude in the affirmative causes grave discussion among various organizations seeking the addition and promotion of colored men from non-commissioned posts to those of commanding officers of the various Negro outfits.

With the addition of 36,000 Negroes as indicated by figures released from the White House last week, there will be a need for many more officers—and no better place, in the opinion of many, can be found for the reserve officers among the Negro race than in the training of the new recruits.

Citing instances, believed to be proof of this attitude, the war department takes the stand that Negroes cannot fully qualify as officers for Negro troops, and of course, refuse to place Negro officers over white troops.

The last World War is taken as a criterion, although the department cites instances which are unusual to uphold their contention. However, Negroes are taking an opposite stand and are vigorously pushing the cause of Negro officers.

Roosevelt Creates 84 New Generals; Slight

Seen To Col. Davis

Harlemites who had anticipated the promotion of the nation's highest ranking Negro officer, Colonel B. O. Davis of the 369th National

Guard, saw their hopes blasted with the announcement on Friday that President Roosevelt had created eighty-four new generals completely skipping an elevation for Davis whose contribution to the armed forces of the country have been stellar.

Disgruntled admirers of the efficient commander of the crack Harlem regiment were quick to observe that the slight to Davis was all the more marked in that one of the President's promotions to brigadier general was that of a lieutenant colonel—a rank lower than that Davis holds. The lieutenant colonel referred to is Terry D. Allen, Cavalry 52, commanding Seventh Cavalry, Fort Bliss, Texas.

Meanwhile at Oswego construction of barracks at Fort Ontario was being rushed in preparation for the arrival of the 369th Coast Artillery. The regiment has been assigned to the fort and will move in soon with 1,800 officers and men. Old buildings are being demolished and new quarters expected ready by December 15. The fort was recently vacated by the Twenty-Eighth Infantry.

At Naco, Arizona, five hundred Negro soldiers of the 27th Infantry were guarding a 125-mile stretch of the international boundary from there to Nogales. The soldiers had been stationed there last week in a secrecy-surrounded move by the government.

A complete list of assignments of National Guard regiments and other units to Army posts at which they will undergo the year's active field training provided by the National Guard mobilization resolu-

tion was made public by the War Department.

This did not however, reveal the dates on which units not yet ordered out would be called, but it was understood that after the 27th Division leaves about October 25, no other National Guard organizations from this part of the country will be ordered out until after January 2nd.

Included among assignments was that of the 372nd Infantry Regiment, composed of a battalion of recently Federalized Negro troops of the New Jersey State Guard, as well as Negro units from Massachusetts and Ohio, 115 officers and 2,665 men, to Fort Dix, New Jersey.

White Officers Only for Draft

OCT 12 1940

WASHINGTON.

Only white officers will be called in to command colored draftees, it was learned after a White House conference in which Walter White, A. Philip Randolph and T. Arnold Hill met with the President for over an hour.

In response to inquiries about the training of colored men as commissioned officers, the use of colored professionals such as doctors, dentists, pharmacists and nurses and the use of colored men in the air corps, the President is quoted as saying that plans for the use of colored persons in these capacities had not yet been developed.

Navy Problem "Insoluble"

As to the navy, Colonel Knox allegedly stated that while he was sympathetic, he felt that the problem there was almost insoluble since men have to live

together on ships, and that "Southern" and "Northern" ships are impossible.

Subsequently, the NAACP, of which Mr. White is executive secretary, released a White House letter advising that colored reserve officers will be placed on active duty only to fill vacancies "in units now officered by colored personnel."

Whites to Head Regulars

The only units at present with colored officers are the National Guards. This means that drafted men will be placed in separate units under white officers.

Even regular army units, Ninth and Tenth Cavalry, the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry, which are to be recruited to full strength, will remain under white officers only.

The White House, it is understood, said if officers training schools were established colored officers would be included. But it added that it does not contemplate any such schools in the immediate future.

White House Still Vague

According to the NAACP official statement, the White House official statement, signed by Col. Edwin M. Watson, continued to be vague on the matter of colored men in the air corps. It declared:

"As to colored aviation units, at the present time the Civil Aeronautics Authority is making a beginning in the preliminary development of colored pilots and the NYA and a number of civilian educational institutions have under instruction colored men for training as mechanics and technical specialists.

"In order to organize colored aviation units within the army, it will first be necessary to obtain trained specialist personnel to man these units. The War Department plans to provide for the acceleration of such training and for the organization of such units as the necessary personnel becomes available."

In commenting upon the arrangement for colored men in the air corps, the NAACP stated:

NAACP Cites Biased Policy

"The position of the administration on colored men in the air corps continues to be vague. Despite all the announcements

from the White House, the fact remains that the army air corps has not accepted a single colored man for training on the same basis it has accepted white men.

"Under the expanded army air training program, an airport in Glenview, Ill., was designated as a training spot for colored pilots, but to date the army has not accepted and sent to Glenview a single colored man for training.

"The administration seems to be moving toward the acceptance of colored men in all branches of the army, but their training as army aviators has yet to begin.

"The excuse of the White House and of the higher army officials that a special personnel has to be trained before colored men can be integrated into the air service does not hold water and may be regarded simply as an excuse to keep colored men out of the air corps."

To Use 42,000 White Officers

It is the plan of the War Department to bring into the military establishment during the remainder of the current fiscal year a total of 1,024,441 men. That number will be in addition to the regular army of 375,000 men.

The officers for the expanded force will come very largely from the Officers' Reserve Corps. Funds carried in the Third Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Bill provide for 42,262 reserve officers being called to active duty from time to time during the remainder of the current fiscal year.

Colored Officers Forgotten

A conservative estimate is that there are at least 2,000 colored reserve officers in grades from second lieutenant to colonel. They are chiefly graduates of Reserve Officers' Training Corps units at Howard and Wilberforce Universities and World War officers.

Under the White House statement they will be limited to services in national guard regiments only.

CONSCIOUS CONFUSION

OCT 19 1940

This whole question of Negro officers has been consciously confused by the various White House statements because the traditional policy of the United States has been to smear, libel, discredit and discourage Negro officers. Our white people are willing after much persuasion to establish Negro units in all branches of the service, if such units are commanded by white men; but while they berate Hitler and Mussolini for their racist policies aimed at Jews, they refuse to abandon THEIR racist policies aimed at Negroes.

Social equality, of which the Negro officers is a walking reminder and advocate, must be prevented, say those in authority, even if the future of the nation be jeopardized.

Our fight for Negro officers will be carried on intelligently only if we thoroughly understand what is in the back of the minds of those in high places who place such formidable obstacles in the path of democracy.

Roosevelt names first Negro Army General in U.S. History

OCT 28 1940

WASHINGTON.—President Roosevelt broke another tradition last week when he startled conservative war department and army officials by promoting Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Coast Artillery, formerly New York National Guard to the rank of brigadier General in the United States army.

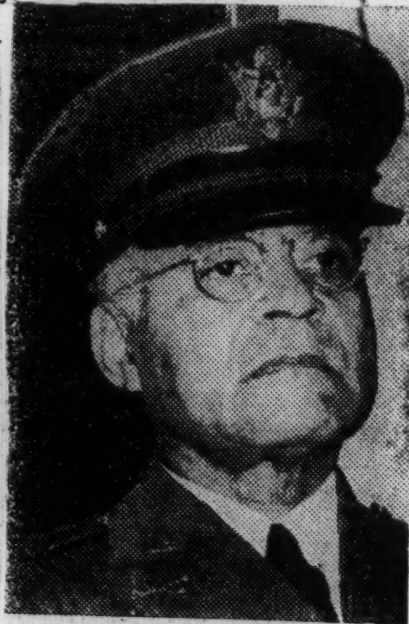
General Davis has been tentatively selected to command a brigade in the 2nd Cavalry division at Fort Riley, Kansas; but official announcement of this action has not been made.

When reached at his home in New York, the new brigadier general said: "Of course I'm happy, although the only news I have of it thus far is what I've heard over the radio and seen in the newspapers. Everybody is happy to receive a promotion. I have received no official notice as yet, but, as you probably know, such actions have to go to the Senate for approval so it may be a little while before I do."

In reply to questions as to his future field of activity: "Well, generals don't command regiments, you know, but I really can't say what Orders I will receive. I'm afraid you'll have to wait until official announcement is made."

General Davis and son Captain Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., are the only Negro line officers in the army. He served for many years with the 10th Cavalry and the 24th Infantry. He had such high academic standing at the academy that he ranked before coming to the 369th he all the officers assigned to infantry as both military instructor and commander of the outfit.

General Davis was educated in Washington, D.C., public schools



BRIG. GEN. DAVIS

COLONEL DAVIS WILL NOT RESIGN

OCT 19 1940

NEW YORK, Oct. 17 (ANP)—Colonel B. O. Davis, commander of the 369th Anti-Aircraft Regiment, will not tender his resignation to the War department and voluntarily retire, he said here Thursday. Col. Davis denied the rumors which had spread about in the wake of President Roosevelt's naming 84 brigadier generals, but passing up Col. Davis, the only Negro army officer who was eligible.

THE CRUX OF THE QUESTION

OCT 19 1940

Where the Negro officers are to serve, if at all, is the crux of this whole question, determining as it does, our future tactics.

If they are to serve in all NEW colored units hereafter established, and only 9,000 Negro conscripts are called (as now seems possible in view of the great spurt in voluntary enlistments), the 353 Negro Reserve officers which Assistant Secretary of War Patterson says are eligible for duty, will be sufficient for the time being.

However, should next year's one-year enlistments fall off (as enlistments fell off after the 1917 draft), then the quota to be filled by the draft would be much larger, and the number of Negroes called would rise proportionately which would greatly increase the number of Negro officers required.

This is supposing, of course, that the NEW colored regiments are NOT to have white officers, and neither the White House nor the War Department have definitely stated that they will NOT be.

It supposes also that NEW units will not be regular army units.

In short, if Negro troops are to be officered by Negroes, then the War Department should immediately establish an R.O.T.C. camp to train these officers preparatory to the formation of new regiments, because the 353 presently eligible Negro officers will not be enough.

NEGRO OFFICERS IN THE ARMY

Most alarming is the statement from the White House that Negro officers are hereafter to be used in the regular army ONLY as chaplains and doctors. And equally alarming is the method, close to trickery, by which this and other military jim crowism is made to appear in Secretary Early's press statement as meeting with the approval of Walter White, A. Philip Randolph and T. Arnold Hill.

These Negroes conferred with the President, Secretary of the Navy Knox and Assistant Secretary of War Patterson in good faith, and the memorandum they submitted to the white conferees neither stated nor implied any desire for jim crowism in the Army and Navy, but insisted on complete integration of Negro officers and enlisted men in all units.

They were merely supporting The Pittsburgh Courier's campaign.

It reveals a sense of guilt and perhaps something worse that the Administration felt it necessary to use the good name and reputation of Messrs. White, Randolph and Hill to deflect from itself the anger and rage of colored citizens over the callous and viciously reactionary statement of future government policy toward Negroes in national defense.

One might have supposed that with the democratic system of society in greater danger than ever before in history and with everybody of prominence from the President down, mouthing phrases in defense of freedom, men in places of responsibility and sworn to administer the affairs of state with justice and wisdom, would have thrown American racialism into the discard and inaugurated a new era of national unity.

We can recall no more bold and blatant surrender to noxious tradition.

Uncle Sam's New Brigadier-General



BRIGADIER-GENERAL BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, Sr.,

elevated last week from the colonelcy of the 369th Coast Artillery regiment of the New York National Guard, shown with his daughter (left), Miss Elnora

Davis, 24, and his wife. A son, Capt. B. O. Davis, Jr., is stationed at Tuskegee, and another daughter is the wife of Olin D. Streater.

Col. B. Davis Is Promoted

Following in the wake of nation-wide pressure on the White House protesting the jim crow policy in the armed forces of the United States, President Roosevelt, standing almost in the shadows of election eve, announced the following acts last week:

1. Promoted 62-year-old Col. B. O. Davis, Sr., commander of the 369th Coast Artillery regiment, New York National Guard, to the temporary rank of brigadier-general.
2. Appointed Dean William H. Hastie of the Howard University Law School, as civilian aide to the Secretary of War, a post similar to that held by Dr. Emmett J. Scott in World War I.
3. Appointed Major Campbell C. Johnson, executive secretary of the Twelfth Street YMCA, Washington, as executive assistant to Dr. Clarence A. Dykstra, national selective service director.
4. Held conference with Drs.

Frederick W. Patterson, Raymond Logan and Howard H. Long, members of the Committee on Participation of Colored Citizens in the National Defense program.

5. Approved conference of representatives of the National Urban League with Sidney Hillman, labor commissioner for the National Defense Advisory Commission to prevent discrimination against colored workers in national defense employment.

Overlooked Two Weeks Ago

Promotion of Col. Davis, who two weeks ago was "overlooked" by the President when he jumped 100 white colonels over him, marks the first time that a colored man has been so advanced.

However, General Davis, who because of his age, may be retired at the discretion of the President, has three hurdles ahead of him, one of which is considered trivial.



MAJOR CAMPBELL JOHNSON

First, his appointment must be confirmed by the Senate; second, he must pass a physical fitness examination, and third, he must be provided with a command. In all probability, he will be assigned to a brigade of cavalry, yet to be organized, of which the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry are expected to form a part.

Father-Son Combination

General Davis, who incidentally constitutes one-half of the total of colored officers in the regular army—the other half being his son, Capt. B. O. Davis, Jr., stationed at Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—received his first military training when he was a major in the cadet corps of the public schools in his native Washington.

Capt. Davis, a West Point graduate, stood so high in his class that he ranked all officers assigned to infantry.

General Davis began his army career on July 13, 1898, as a first lieutenant with the Eighth United States Infantry, a special organization during the Spanish-American War. He was mustered out of the service on March 6, 1899.

He enlisted as a private in the Ninth Cavalry on June 14, 1899. In the course of the next two years he served as a corporal and a sergeant major. He was appointed a second lieutenant of cavalry on February 2, 1901; a first lieutenant on March 30, 1905; a captain on December 24, 1915; a major (temporary) on August 5, 1917 to August 6, 1918; a lieutenant colonel on July 1, 1920, and a colonel on February 18, 1930.

About two years ago, at the request of Governor Herbert Lehman, the War Department detailed him to New York to command the 369th Infantry, which lately was converted into a coast artillery regiment.

In reply to questions regarding his future activity, General Davis said:

"Well, generals don't command regiments, you know, but I really



DEAN WILLIAM H. HASTIE

can't say what orders I will receive, but as you probably know, such actions have to go to the Senate for approval, so it may be a little while before I do. Of course, I'm happy."

Hastie Against Jim Crow

Dean Hastie, in accepting his duties with the War Department, said:

"I have always been consistently opposed to any policy of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces of this country. I am assuming this post in the

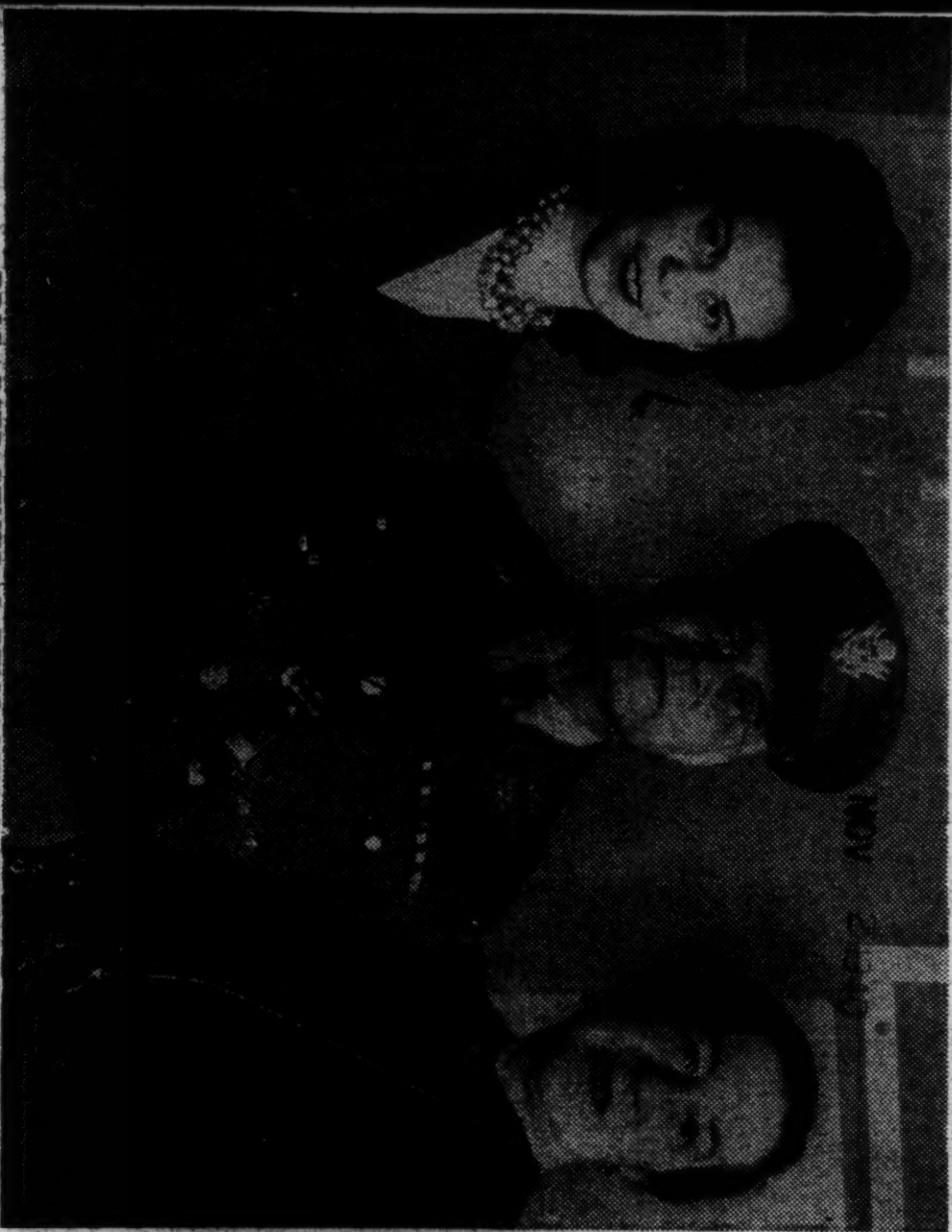
hope that I will be able to work effectively toward the integration of the colored man into the army and to facilitate his placement, training and promotion."

A graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School, Dean Hastie, who was formerly an assistant solicitor in the Department of the Interior, was appointed by President Roosevelt as Federal judge of U. S. District Court in the Virgin Islands. He resigned this post in 1939, to assume the deanship of the law school at Howard. He will be granted a leave from that position to take up his new duties. A graduate of Howard University and of its law school, Major Johnson received his commission in the Reserve Officers' Corps in 1929, and was or-

ganizer of Howard's ROTC unit. He is a member of the District of Columbia parole board, the Family Service Association, the Council of Social Agencies and other civic and welfare organizations. His present salary as colonel, is \$4,000 base pay plus travel allowances and subsistence allowances and his new salary will be \$6,000 a year plus travel and subsistence allowances.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 OFFICERS

Uncle Sam's New Brigadier-General



BRIGADIER-GENERAL BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, Sr., elevated last week from the colonelcy of the 369th Coast Artillery regiment of the New York National Guard, shown with his daughter (left), Miss Elnora

Davis, 24, and his wife. A son, Capt. B. O. Davis, Jr., is stationed at Tuskegee, and another daughter is the wife of Olin D. Shreator.

Col. B. Davis Is Promoted

Following in the wake of nation-wide pressure on the White House protesting the jim crow policy in the armed forces of the United States, President Roosevelt, standing almost in the shadows of election eve, announced the following acts last week:

1. Promoted 62-year-old Col. B. O. Davis, Sr., commander of the 369th Coast Artillery regiment, New York National Guard, to the temporary rank of brigadier-general.
2. Appointed Dean William H. Hastie of the Howard University Law School, as civilian aide to the Secretary of War, a post similar to that held by Dr. Emmett J. Scott in World War I.
3. Appointed Major Campbell C. Johnson, executive secretary of the Twelfth Street YMCA, Washington, as executive assistant to Dr. Clarence A. Dykstra, national selective service director.
4. Held conference with Drs. Fredrick L. Patterson, Raymond Logan and Howard H. Long, members of the Committee on Participation of Colored Citizens in the National Defense program.
5. Approved conference of representatives of the National Urban League with Sidney Hillman, labor commissioner for the National Defense Advisory Commission to prevent discrimination against colored workers in national defense employment.

Overlooked Two Weeks Ago

Promotion of Col. Davis, who two weeks ago was "overlooked" by the President when he jumped 100 white colonels over him, marks the first time that a colored man has been so advanced.

However, General Davis, who because of his age, may be retired at the discretion of the President, has three hurdles ahead of him, one of which is considered trivial.



MAJOR CAMPBELL JOHNSON

First, his appointment must be confirmed by the Senate; second, he must pass a physical fitness examination, and third, he must be provided with a command. If all probability, he will be assigned to a brigade of cavalry, yet to be organized, of which the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry are expected to form a part.

Father-Son Combination

General Davis, who incidentally constitutes one-half of the total of colored officers in the regular army—the other half being his son, Capt. B. O. Davis, Jr., stationed at Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—received his first military training when he was a major in the cadet corps of the public schools in his native Washington.

Capt. Davis, a West Point graduate, stood so high in his class that he ranked all officers assigned to infantry.

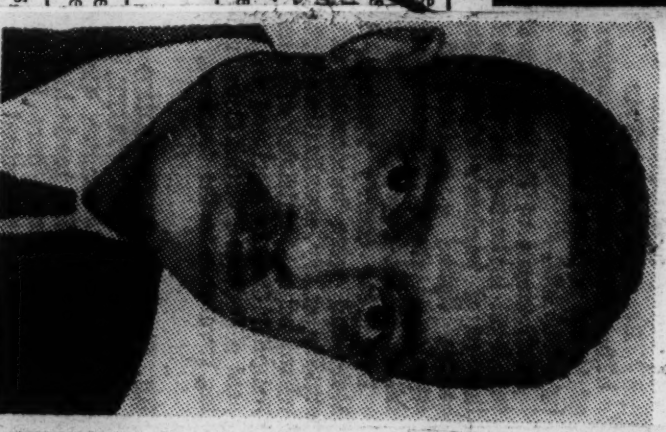
General Davis began his army career on July 13, 1898, as a first lieutenant with the Eighth United States Infantry, a special organization during the Spanish-American War. He was mustered on the service on March 6, 1899

He enlisted as a private in the Ninth Cavalry on June 14, 1899. In the course of the next two years he served as a corporal and a sergeant major. He was appointed a second lieutenant of cavalry on February 2, 1901; a first lieutenant on March 30, 1905; a captain on December 24, 1915; a major (temporary) on August 5, 1917 to August 6, 1918; a lieutenant colonel on July 1, 1920, and a colonel on February 18, 1930.

About two years ago, at the request of Governor Herbert Lehman, the War Department detailed him to New York to command the 369th Infantry, which lately was converted into a coast artillery regiment.

In reply to questions regarding his future activity, General Davis said:

"Well, generals don't command regiments, you know, but I really



DEAN WILLIAM H. HASTIE

can't say what orders I will receive, but as you probably know, such actions have to go to the Senate for approval, so it may be a little while before I do. Of course, I'm happy."

Hastie Against Jim Crow
Dean Hastie, in accepting his duties with the War Department, said:

"I have always been consistently opposed to any policy of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces of this country. I am assuming this post in the

hope that I will be able to work effectively toward the integration of the colored man into the army and to facilitate his placement, training and promotion. A graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School, Dean Hastie, who was formerly an assistant solicitor in the Department of the Interior, was appointed by President Roosevelt as Federal judge of the District Court in the Virgin Islands.

He resigned this post in 1939, to assume the deanship of the law school at Howard. He will be granted a leave from that position to take up his new duties. A graduate of Howard University and of its law school, Major Johnson received his present commission in the Reserve Officers' Corps in 1929, and was organizer of Howard's ROTC unit. He is a member of the District of Columbia parole board, the Family Service Association, the Council of Social Agencies and other civic and welfare organizations.

His present salary as colonel, is \$4,000 base pay plus travel and subsistence allowances and his new salary will be \$6,000 a year plus travel and subsistence allowances.

WILL BE PLACED IN COMMAND OF NINTH AND TENTH CAVALRY REGIMENTS

Savannah Tribune
Elevation Follows Conference of Prominent Citizens
With President Roosevelt

OCT 31 1940

ROSE TO PROMINENCE FROM THE RANK

Washington, Oct. 26 (ANP)—For the first time in the history of the United States, a Negro will wear the stars of the rank of general, with the announcement from the White House and the war department that Col. Benjamin O. Davis, will in the future be brigadier general, to command the 2nd division of cavalry, comprising the 9th and 10th regiments. This promotion is a signal victory for the units that have been fighting for such recognition and is believed to presage the forming of an entirely Negro officered division in the army.

Savannah
Announcement of the promotion of Colonel Davis followed a conference held Friday when Dr. Frederick Patterson of Tuskegee Institute, Dr. Mayfore Logan of Howard University and Dr. Howard Long of the public schools of the District visited the White House and discussed with the President other possibilities for Negro participation in the national defense.

It is conceded in official circles that the meeting of Drs. Patterson, Logan and Long was far more successful than the September conference when Walter White, T. Arnold Hill and A. Philip Randolph met with Roosevelt and other officials. Shortly after their visit, the army policy of strict separation of the races in the army was announced from the White House.

As members of the Committee on Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program, Dr. Logan and Dr. Long presented the President a memorandum, it is said, the result of which is announced by Dr. Logan's group as follows:

"The White House release of October 10 had been subject to an interpretation that would permit the construction that eligible colored reserve officers would be assigned to only national guard units. This interpretation had aroused extreme apprehension among the colored people of the nation, because such a policy would represent one that is less liberal than that of President Woodrow

Wilson and even than a policy that obtained in the Spanish American war and the American Civil War.

"The committee insisted in the conference that the interpretation should be that colored reserve officers should be assigned to extended active duty with projected units to be formed out of the men inducted under the Selective Service act and left with the impression that this interpretation is the correct one."

According to one member of the committee, this means that there will be openings in the newly formed units including colored reserve officers, that medical and dental men will also be included in the newly created setups and that there will be a wider participation by colored reserve officers than previously anticipated.

A complete reversal of the policy of the war department in this situation is believed to have been accomplished with the colored reserve officers now getting more attention than they had in the past.

It is said that while there will be calls for these colored officers in the new units, there is no definite understanding that the entire personnel will be Negro.

Savannah
A survey of the present situation shows that there are now many officers in the national guard who will be replaced because of physical unfitness, of business and other connections and other reasons, thus leaving many vacancies for the newly commissioned men and for those in the service.

Savannah
Coming at a time when public interest is aroused in the critical situation and so shortly after registration day, the announcement of the promotion of Colonel Davis is believed to precede other radical changes in the military policy of the United States army.

Recently assigned to the 369th infantry after serving in various capacities as military instructor at Tuskegee and at Wilberforce. Gen. Davis, has won the admiration of his new charge by his ability as a military man. His record at the

war department and in the army guide has often been referred to as a model.

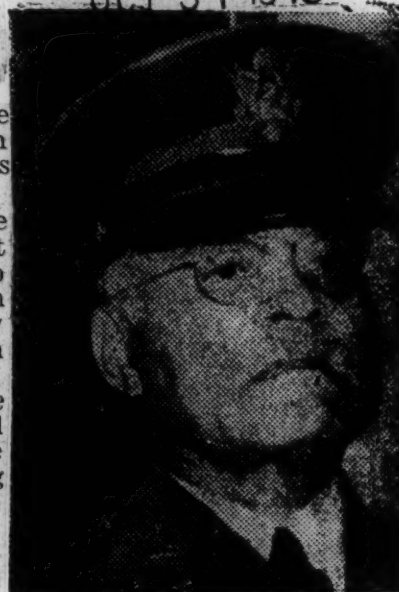
The promotion, said the President, was made because of the requirements of the increase in the size of the army and is in accordance with the recently announced policy that Negroes will be given the same military training as white soldiers, but they will get it in separate outfits.

Savannah
General Davis and his son are the only two Negro officers in the regular army. Both are natives of Washington, the elder Davis having been born here July 1, 1877, and his son, Lieut. Davis now R. O. T. C. instructor at Tuskegee institute, having been born here in 1912.

Savannah
Brigadier General Spencer C. Dickerson of the national guard has previously been retired.

APPOINTED

OCT 31 1940



BRIG. GEN. DAVIS



JUDGE HASTIE

U. S. War Department Announces Appointments

OCT 31 1940

Washington, D. C. — The U. S. War Department announced that President Roosevelt has appointed Judge William H. Hastie, Dean of the Howard University Law School, as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War. Judge Hastie will be concerned with "the development and administration of policies looking to the fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the armed forces", the announcement stated.

Savannah
At the same time, Clarence A. Dykstra, National Selective Service Director, announced the appointment of Major Campbell C. Johnson, first instructor of Military Science and Tactics at Howard University, as Executive Assistant to the Selective Service Director.

Both appointments followed by a few hours the promotion by President Roosevelt of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to the grade of Brigadier General in the U. S. Army. Colonel Davis, Commander of the 369th Field Artillery Regiment of the New York National Guard, is the first Negro to be elevated to the grade of General in the United States armed forces.

DAVIS BECOMES FIRST NEGRO GENERAL



The highlight of last week's army activities was the promotion by President Roosevelt of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Infantry (anti-aircraft) to the temporary rank of brigadier-general, the first such appointment in the history of the United States. Brigadier-General Davis, who rose from the ranks, is pic-

tured in upper photo with Governor Lehman of New York during recent maneuvers. In lower photo the brigadier-general (right) is pictured with his wife, son and daughter-in-law. His son, Benjamin O. Davis Jr., is a graduate of West Point and holds a first lieutenancy in the infantry.

Col. Davis' Army Record, That Of A Model Soldier

NOV 2 1940 — **WASHINGTON.**—Col. Ben-jamin O. Davis, who on Octo-ber 25 was appointed to the post of brigadier general by order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, is in every sense a soldier risen from the ranks and altogether deserving of this honor, as shown by his United States army record.

The elevation of Col. Davis at the age of 63 makes him the first acting Race general in history of the United States army. He entered the service at start of the Spanish-American war.

Col. Davis, a native of Washing-

ton, D. C., has a son, Benjamin Davis Jr., a graduate of West Point, who is a first lieutenant of infantry.

Colonel Of Cavalry

The former regimental commander is a colonel of cavalry in the Regular Army and was recently assigned as the Instructor of the 369th Infantry. Colonel Davis succeeded Colonel Joseph A. S. Mundy, who in addition to his duties as Chief of Staff of the New York National Guard, was temporarily assigned to command the regiment upon the separation from the service of Colonel John G. Grimley on February 23, 1938.

The Army Register, as of January 1, 1938, shows Col. Davis' service in the Army as follows:

First Lieutenant, 8th U. S. Volunteer Infantry, 13 July 98. Mustered out, 6 March 99. Private, Corporal Troop "I" and Squadron Sergeant Major 9th Cavalry 14 June 99 to 18 May 01. 2nd Lieutenant of Cavalry 2 February 01. Accepted 19 May 01. 1st Lieutenant 30 March 05, Captain 24 Dec. 15. Major (Temporary) 5 Aug. 17. Lieutenant Colonel National Army 11 May 18. Honorably discharged as Lieutenant Colonel National Army 14 Oct. 19. Lieutenant Colonel Cavalry Regular Army 1 July 20. Colonel 18 February 30. During the Spanish American War Colonel Davis served as a company officer at Ft. Thomas, Ky., and Camp George H. Thomas, Ga. Upon muster out he enlisted in the 9th Cavalry as a private. A year and a half later he qualified for a commission as 2nd Lieutenant Regular Army by examination at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Phillipines Service

He served with the 2nd Squadron 10th Cavalry in Samar and Panay, Philippine Islands during the Insurrection 1901-02. On his return to the U. S. he was stationed at Old Fort Washaki, Wyoming. He has served as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Wilberforce university, Wilberforce, Ohio, and The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama; as Military Attache to the American Legation, Monrovia, Liberia, and with the Mexican Border Patrol 1912-15. He was present at the capture of Naco, Sonora, by Mexican forces under General Obregon who later became President of the Republic of Mexico.

During the World War he was with the 9th Cavalry at Camp Stotsenberg, Pampanga, where he served as a Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel. He returned to the U. S. in 1920. He also served a five year tour as an Instructor, Ohio National Guard. During the period 1930-33, he accompanied six parties of Gold Star Mothers on their pilgrimages to the cemeteries of Europe.

Roosevelt Names First Negro Army

General in U. S. History

NOV 2 1940

WASHINGTON.—President Roosevelt broke another tradition last week when he startled conservative war department and army officials by promoting Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Coast Artillery, formerly New York National Guard to the rank of Brigadier General in the United States Army.

General Davis has been tentatively selected to command a brigade in the 2nd Cavalry division at Fort Riley, Kansas, but official announcement of this action has not been made.

When reached at his home in New York, the new brigadier general said, "Of course I'm happy, although the only news I have of it thus far is what I've heard over the radio and seen in the newspapers. Everybody is happy to receive a promotion. I have received no official notice as yet, but, as you probably know, such actions have to go to the Senate for approval so it may be a little while before I do."

In reply to questions as to his future field activity, "Well, generals don't command regiments, you know, but I really can't say what orders I will receive. I'm afraid you'll have to wait until official announcement is made."

General Davis and son, Captain Benjamin O. Davis jr., are the only Negro line officers in the army. Captain Davis, a West Point graduate, had such high academic standing at the academy that he ranked all the officers assigned to infantry.

General Davis was educated in Washington, D. C., public schools

COL. DAVIS PROMOTED TO BRIGADIER GENERAL'S RANK

Appointment Considered A Political Move To Halt Negro Voters Revolt

NOV 2 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Alarmed at the mass protests of Negroes against his and the War Department's discriminatory statement of policy regarding Negro soldiers, President Roosevelt on Friday announced the promotion of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Field Artillery (anti-aircraft) Regiment to the rank of Brigadier General in the U. S. Army. By his promotion, Col. Davis becomes the first Negro to be elevated to the grade of General in the United States Army.

At the same time President Roosevelt also announced the appointment of ex-Judge William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard University Law School, as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, and the appointment of Major Campbell C. Johnson, as Executive Assistant to Dr. Clarence A. Dykstra, National Selective Service director.

In official circles the appointments were all regarded as being "politically expedient" and designed to win back the Negro vote which threatened wholesale defections because of the President's recent announcement approving and sanctioning the War Department's policy of jim crowing Negro soldiers.

New York Age

The War Department it was announced, tentatively selected Brig. General Davis to command a brigade in the Second Cavalry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas, but in the meantime he continues as commander of the 369th Regiment in New York to which he was assigned on July 28, 1938 in the dual role as military instructor and Colonel of the National Guard. 63 years of age he reaches retirement age next March.

Entering the service during the

Spanish-American War, he was for many years assigned to the Ninth Cavalry where he rose to the rank of Colonel. From 1912 to 1915 he was at the Mexican border and during the World War with the Ninth Cavalry in the Philippines. He has also served as military attache to the American Legation in Liberia and as professor of military science and tactics at Wilberforce University and at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Hastie Speaks Out

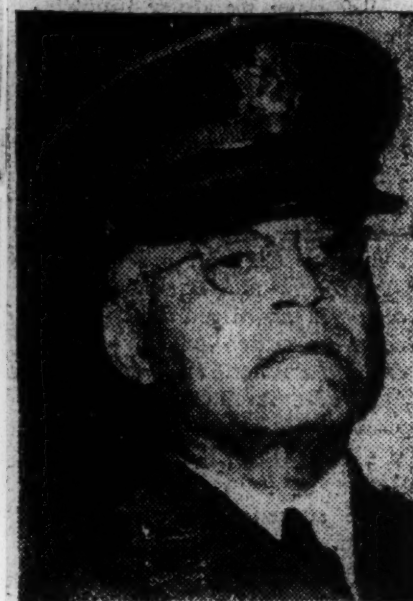
In accepting his duties as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, Judge Hastie, a member of the board of directors of the NAACP and a founder of the New Negro Alliance, declared:

"I have always been consistently opposed to any policy of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces of his country. I am assuming this post in the hope that I will be able to work effectively toward the integration of the Negro into the Army and to facilitate his placement, training and promotion."

The announcement of his appointment said that Judge Hastie will be concerned with "the development and administration of policies looking to the fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the armed forces."

A graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School, Judge Hastie was formerly an Assistant Solicitor in the Interior Department. Later he was appointed Federal Judge of the U. S. District Court in the Virgin Islands but resigned this post in 1939 to assume the deanship of Howard University Law School from which position he has now been granted a leave to assume his new duties in

Now Brigadier General



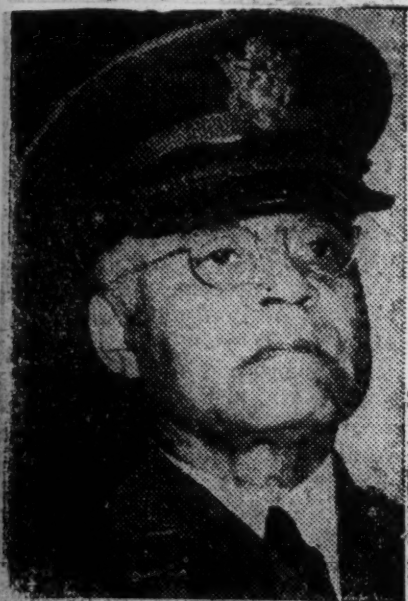
BRIG. GEN. DAVIS

the War Department.

To Aid In Draft

Major Johnson, who will aid Dr. Dykstra in administrative affairs of the Selective Service, with special attention to the racial phases of the draft, is an instructor at Howard University and executive secretary of the 12th Street Branch YMCA. During the World War he organized the first R. O. T. C. unit at Howard University, served as its first professor of military science and tactics and also served overseas as a captain of infantry.

A graduate of Howard University and its Law School, Major Johnson received his present commission in the Reserve Officers Corps in 1929. He is a member of the District of Columbia Parole Board and practiced law for two years before assuming the secretaryship of the local YMCA.



COL. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS

and at Howard university. He served in the Spanish-American war and in the summer of 1930

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 OFFICERS

United States Army May Have White Officers For Negro Troops In New Plan

Some to Offer Opposition If Such Regulations Are
Carried Out

Race Officers Not Available

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Do Negro soldiers prefer white officers? This question has caused quite a bit of argument among officials here and their attitude in the affirmative causes grave discussion among various organizations seeking the addition and promotion of colored men from non-commissioned posts to those of commanding officers of the various Negro outfits.

With the addition of 36,000 Negroes as indicated by figures released from the White House last week, there will be a need for many more officers—and no better place, in the opinion of many, can be found for the reserve officers among the Negro race than in the training of the new units.

Citing instances, believed to be proof of its attitude, the war department takes the stand that Negroes cannot fully qualify as officers for Negro troops, and of course, refuse to place Negro officers over white troops.

The last World War is taken as a criterion, although the department cites instances which are unusual to uphold their contention. However, Negroes are taking an opposite stand and are vigorously pushing the cause of Negro officers.

Colonel Davis Denies Rumor He'll Resign As 369th Commander

Rumors which spread like wild fire Tuesday morning that Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, commander of the 369th Anti-Aircraft Regiment, would tender his resignation to the War Department and retire, were positively denied by Col. Davis who declared the reports without foundation.

The rumors were that Col. Davis was resigning because President Roosevelt in appointing 84 brigadier generals two weeks ago ignored Col. Davis who is in line for promotion to higher rank because of the increases in the armed forces.

Negro Reserve Officers Will Be Called By The War Department

NEW YORK.—Negro officers in the U. S. army reserve will be called up for service to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel according to a letter from the White House October 2 to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Colonel Edwin M. Watson, secretary to President Roosevelt, wrote Walter White under date of October 2 stating:

"The President has directed me to acknowledge your telegram of September 17th and to inform you that the War Department proposes to place Negro Reserve officers on extended active duty as required to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel. Although the number of such vacancies cannot be determined accurately at this time, it is probable that the majority of eligible Negro Reserve officers will be required."

Not only did The White House letter pledge that Negro reserve officers would be called up, but it asserted that when and if schools for officers were established, Negroes would be included. The letter declared:

"When Officers' date Schools are established, provision will be made to include qualified Negroes. However, it is not contemplated by the War Department that any such schools will be established in the immediate future as sufficient Reserve officers are now available for an army of approximately 2,000,000 men."

However, the letter from The White House continued to be vague on the matter of Negroes in the Air corps. It declared:

"As to colored aviation units, at present time, the Civil Aeronautics Authority is making a beginning in the preliminary development of Negro pilots, and the National Youth Administration and a number of ci-

vilian educational institutions have under instruction colored men for training as mechanics and technical specialists. In order to organize colored aviation units within the Army, it will first be necessary to obtain trained specialist personnel to man these units. The War Department plans to provide for the acceleration of such training and for the organization of such units as the necessary personnel becomes available."

In commenting upon the arrangement for Negroes in the air corps, the NAACP stated:

"The position of the administration on Negroes in the air corps continues to be vague. Despite all the announcements from The White House, the fact remains that the army air corps has not accepted a single Negro for training on the same basis it has accepted whites. Under the expanded army air training program, an airport in Glenview, Ill., was designated as a training spot for Negro pilots, but to date the army has not accepted and sent to Glenview a single Negro for training. The administration seems to be moving toward the acceptance of Negroes in all other branches of the army, but the training of Negroes as army aviators has yet to begin."

"The excuse of The White House and of the higher army officials that a special personnel has to be trained before Negroes can be integrated into the air service does not hold water and may be regarded simply as an excuse to keep Negroes out of the air corps."

NO PROMOTION



Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commanding officer of the 369th Infantry regiment, New York National Guard, who was passed

over last week when more than 100 white colonels were promoted to the rank of brigadier general. Legion posts are protesting to President Roosevelt and Congress.

Negro Reserve Officers Will Be Called Up For Active Service To Fill Vacancies, War Dept. Says

OCT 12 1940

Negro officers in the U. S. Army reserve will be called up for service to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel, according to a letter from the White House October 2 to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Colonel Edwin M. Watson, secretary to President Roosevelt, wrote Walter White under date of October 2 stating:

"The President has directed me to acknowledge your telegram of September 17th and to inform you that the War Department proposes to place Negro Reserve officers on extended active duty as required to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel. Although the number of such vacancies cannot be determined accurately at this time, it is probable that the majority of eligible Negro Reserve officers will be required."

Not only did the White House letter pledge that Negro reserve officers would be called up, but it asserted that when and if schools for officers were established, Negroes would be included. The letter declared:

"When Officers' Candidate Schools are established, provision will be made to include qualified Negroes. However, it is not contemplated by the War Department that any such schools will be established in the immediate future as sufficient Reserve officers are now available for an army of approximately two million men."

Vague On Air Corps

However the letter from the White House continued to be vague on the matter of Negroes in the air corps. It declared:

"As to colored aviation units, at the present time the Civil Aeronautics Authority is making a beginning in the preliminary development of Negro pilots, and the National Youth Administration and a number of civilian educational institutions have under instruction colored men for training as mechanics and technical specialists.

In order to organize colored aviation units within the Army, it will first be necessary to obtain trained specialist personnel to man these units. The War Department plans to provide for the acceleration of such training and for the organization of such units as the necessary personnel becomes available."

In commenting upon the arrangement for Negroes in the air corps, the N.A.A.C.P. stated:

"The position of the administration on Negroes in the air corps continues to be vague. Despite all the announcements from the White House, the fact remains that the army air corps has not accepted a single Negro for training on the same basis it has accepted whites. Under the expanded army air training program an airport in Glenview, Ill., was designated as a training spot for Negro pilots but to date the army has not accepted and sent to Glenview a single Negro for training. The administration seems to be moving toward the acceptance of Negroes in all other branches of the army, but the training of Negroes as army aviators has yet to begin."

"The excuse of the White House and of the higher army officials that a special personnel has to be trained before Negroes can be integrated into the air service does not hold water and may be regarded simply as an excuse to keep Negroes out of the air corps."

DAVIS LOOKED AS ARMY PROMOTES WHITE COLONELS

OCT 12 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10—No black generals are wanted in the United States Army. Merit, service and the Army system of rating do not count when a black man stands in line for promotion. The clique that runs the United States

War Department Bars Race Officers For Regular Army

Colored Reserve Officers To Be Restricted To National Guard Outfits—White Officers Will Boss Negro Soldiers If Present Plans Hold.

OCT 12 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10—Plans of the War Department do not contemplate the assignment of colored Reserve officers on extended active duty with units of the Regular Army, General George C. Marshall the Chief of Staff, disclosed last Saturday.

Colored reserve officers will serve on extended active duty only to fill vacancies in the commissioned personnel of colored units of the National Guard after they are inducted into the Federal service unless the War Department changes its present plans.

This plan means a continuation of the policy of the War Department of having colored units of the Regular Army commanded by white officers. The only colored officers at present serving with colored units of the Regular Army are three chaplains—First Lieut. Louis James Beasley, Fort Benning, Ga.; First Lieut. John Allen De Veaux, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and First Lieut. Norman Gregg Long, Fort Riley, Kans.

It is estimated that there are approximately 2,000 colored reserve officers eligible for extended active duty with the Regular Army. They are chiefly graduates of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps units at Howard and Wilberforce Universities, officers who served in the first World War, and graduates of Citizens' Military Training camps.

Army without regard for the democratic principle or the rights of the people has determined that there shall be no black field officers.

This was all demonstrated once again last week when more than one hundred white colonels were promoted to the grade of brigadier general over the head of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, commanding officer of the 369th Infantry regiment, New York.

Col. Davis is a Regular Army officer detailed to the 369th.

There has never been an active Negro general officer in the United States Army.

REMEMBER? COL. YOUNG WAS PHYSICALLY UNFIT

Col. Charles Young was passed over during the World War because he was supposed to be physically unfit.

In 1917 he rode his horse all the way from Wilberforce, Ohio, to Washington to demonstrate he was physically fit, but the War Department refused to order him to active duty because, if it had done so, it could not have avoided his elevation to brigadier general.

OCT 12 1940

The affront to Col. Davis last week came after the White House had indicated that sufficient new Negro units were to be created to justify the appointment of a Negro general officer who would not have to command white troops.

These general officers are appointed by the President on the recommendation of the War Department.

NEGRO HOPES BLASTED

LAST WEEK'S PAPERS carried the news that President Roosevelt, in expanding the U. S. Army had appointed 84 new generals in the army, promoting them from the ranks of colonels. Nowhere on the list could be found the name of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the regular army today.

OCT 12 1940

So, as the nation prepares for the eventuality of war, it seems, as though the War Department will follow the same procedure as it did back in 1917 when it purposely passed over Colonel Charles Young because he was supposed to be physically unfit. To refute this Colonel Y. Young rode his horse all the way from Wilberforce, Ohio, to Washington, D. C., to demonstrate his physical fitness but the War Department refused to order him to active duty because if it had done so it could not have avoided elevating him to the rank of brigadier general.

Last week, Colonel Davis, who is commander of the 369th anti-aircraft regiment, was passed over in promotion although a lieutenant-colonel, the rank lower than his, was promoted to brigadier general. Colonel Davis is on active duty, is one of the senior colonels in the regular army, and should have been among those advanced in rank. Colonel Davis does not reach retirement age until next year so it is highly possible that if Negroes send enough protests to the President against his slight of Colonel Davis, he may be given just and due consideration.

We should have not only a general but also Negroes as officers in the lower ranks and on the general staff. This, we say, we should have. But as long as the War Department continues to maintain its anti-Negro attitude we'll never get it. Protests, mass protests of Negroes, can change that policy. But we've got to act fast and now!

Colonel Davis, Negro, Raised To Rank of Brigadier General

OCT 25 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—President Roosevelt today promoted Col. Benjamin O. Davis, making him the first Negro brigadier general in the history of the United States Army.

Mr. Roosevelt announced the promotion along with several others.

The list was led by the advance of Maj. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commander of the G. H. Q. air force, to be a lieutenant general. The promotion gives Gen. Emmons the same rating as an army corps commander. There are now six other lieutenant generals.

The promotions also included the elevation of Lt. Col. Lewis B. Hershey, assistant selective service director, to the rank of brigadier general. Gen. Hershey was acting draft director before the appointment of Clarence A. Dykstra.

Other promotions, Mr. Roosevelt said in a statement, are necessitated by expansion of the army from 227,000 to 1,400,000 in the present fiscal year. He said the advance of officers in the upper brackets will not interfere with advancement of younger men in the service.

Davis Becomes First U. S. Negro General

OCT 25 1940

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Roosevelt Friday announced the promotion of Col. Benjamin O. Davis to become the first Negro general in the army's history.

Davis' elevation to be a brigadier general was among a number of high rank promotions which Mr. Roosevelt said were required by the increase of the army.

Col. Davis, a brigade commander, and Col. Jack W. Heard, commandant of the Armored Force School, were promoted to be brigadier generals in the cavalry.

A White House announcement said that the increased strength of the army "makes necessary the organization and activation of many new units, and permits a large expansion of the air corps."

"It increases many fold," the announcement said, "the activities and the size of our manufacturing arsenals and depots. This expansion cannot be carried out without proper leadership and proper rank must be accorded to these leaders. The temporary promotions are essential to meet the requirements

of the present phase of this expansion." Col. Davis, highest ranking of a relative handful of Negro army officers, has had 42 years of military service. He is 63. He entered the army as a first lieutenant of volunteers in a Negro infantry regiment in the Spanish-American War. Mustered out in 1899, Davis reenlisted and served two years in the ranks before being given an appointment as second lieutenant of cavalry.

The War Department said as brigadier general, Davis would command a brigade of the Second Cavalry Division which is yet to be formed. Officials said it would be composed of Negro troops.

BENJAMIN DAVIS BECOMES FIRST NEGRO GENERAL

Chicago Daily Tribune

Chicago, Ill.

Arnold Gets New Post as Air Deputy.

OCT 26 1940

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., Oct. 25.—President Roosevelt today named the first Negro general in the history of the United States army in giving Col. Benjamin O. Davis the temporary rank of brigadier general.

The Davis elevation came among a batch of temporary promotions required by the defense expansion program which is increasing the active strength of the army from 227,000 to 1,400,000 within a year.

Brig. Gen. Davis, who is 63 years old, rose from the ranks, entering the service during the Spanish-American war. He is in the cavalry and has a son, a graduate of West Point, who is a first lieutenant of infantry.

Mr. Roosevelt jumped Lieut. Col. Lewis B. Hershey, executive of the selective service system, to the rank of brigadier general. In many quarters Hershey had been expected to receive the appointment of draft director which went to Dr. Clarence

A. Dykstra, president of the University of Wisconsin.

Promotes G. H. Q. Air Commander.

Maj. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commander of the G. H. Q. air force, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general, which is held by the commanders of the four army areas of continental United States and commanders of the departments of Panama and Hawaii. This rank is held only so long as its possessor is in actual command of an army area or department. When command is relinquished a lieutenant general reverts to his permanent rank.

In another move affecting the air corps the war department transferred Maj. Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the air corps, to a newly created post of deputy chief of staff. Maj. Gen. George H. Brett, at present an assistant of Arnold, will act as air corps chief. In his new post Arnold is charged with coordinating all matters pertaining to the air corps.

Other Promotions.
Other promotions, announced by the President, are as follows:
Air Corps.
To be major general: Brig. Gen. John F. Curry, air district commander.
To be brigadier generals: Col. Clinton W. Russell, chief of staff, G. H. Q. air force, and Col. John C. McDonnell, Col. John B. Brooks, and Col. Carlyle H. Wash, wing commanders.

Corps and Division Commanders.
To be major generals: Brig. Gen. Walter K. Wilson, corps commander; Brig. Gen. Ernest D. Peck, corps area commander; Brig. Gen. Fulton Q. C. Gardner, coast and antiaircraft commander in Hawaii; and Brig. Gen. Sanderford Jarman, coast and antiaircraft commander in the Canal Zone.

Coast and Antiaircraft Artillery.
To be brigadier generals: Col. Forrest E. Williford, Sandy Hook, N. J.; Col. Arthur G. Campbell, Virginia Beach, Va.; and Col. Robert C. Garrett, Portland, Me., brigade commanders.

Infantry.
To be brigadier general: Col. Joseph A. Atkins, office, chief of staff.

Cavalry.
To be brigadier general: Col. Jack W. Hoard, commandant armored force school.

Ordnance Manufacturing Arsenals.
To be brigadier generals: Col. Edward M. Shinkle, commander of Picatinny arsenal; Col. Gilbert H. Stewart, Springfield arsenal; Col. Rolland W. Case, Watertown arsenal; Col. Norman F. Ramsey, Rock Island arsenal; Col. Alexander G. Gillespie, Watervliet arsenal; Col. Walter P. Boatwright, Frankford arsenal.

Quartermaster Corps.
To be brigadier general: Col. William

OFFICERS

A. McCain, commanding Philadelphia quartermaster depot.

Chemical Warfare Service.

To be brigadier general: Col. Ray, L. Avery, commanding Edgewood arsenal.

Corps of Engineers.

To be brigadier general: Col. Ulysses S. Grant, commandant, training center.

Marine Corps.

To be brigadier generals as vacancies occur:

Col. Charles F. B. Price, now a member of the naval examining and retiring boards; Col. Julian C. Smith, chief of staff at the Quantico, Va., marine barracks; Col. Roy S. Geiger, now a student at the naval war college, Newport, R. I.; Col. Charles D. Barrett, director of the marine corps division of plans and policies.

OCT 26 1940

Benedict Gets Fourth Corps.

The war department assigned Maj. Gen. Jay L. Benedict, superintendent of the United States Military academy at West Point, to command the 4th army corps with headquarters at Camp Blanding, Florida. Brig. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger succeeds Gen. Benedict at the academy Nov. 15.

Commanders for three antiaircraft artillery training centers also were designated. Brig. Gen. Oliver L. Spiller, now in command of the 62d coast artillery, Fort Totten, New York, will command the antiaircraft artillery training center at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Brig. Gen. Richard F. Cox was assigned to a similar center at Hinesville, Ga., and Brig. Gen. Edgar B. Colladay to March field, California.

Cox now commands the 70th coast artillery at Fort Moultrie, South Carolina, and Gen. Colladay the 75th coast artillery at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sentinel
October 25, 1940

First Negro In History Is Made General

Washington (UP). — President Roosevelt today promoted Col. Benjamin O. Davis to be a brigadier general, making him the first Negro brigadier in the history of the U. S. Army.

Mr. Roosevelt announced the promotion at a press conference along with several others.

The list of promotions was led by the advance of Maj. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commander of the General Headquarters Air Force,

to be a lieutenant general. The promotion gives Emmons the same rating as an army corps commander. There are six other lieutenant generals.

Mr. Roosevelt said this promotion was ordered on the theory that the General Headquarters Air Force is at least the equal in importance to a corps command.

The promotions also included the elevation of Lieut. Col. Lewis B. Hershey, assistant selective service director, to the rank of brigadier general. Hershey was acting draft director before the appointment of Clarence A. Dykstra.

Other promotions, Mr. Roosevelt said in a statement, are necessitated by expansion of the army from 227,000 to 1,400,000 in the present fiscal year.

"This increased strength makes necessary the organization and activation of many new units," he said. "It permits a large expansion of the air corps. It increases many fold the activities and the size of our manufacturing arsenals, and depots.

"This expansion cannot be carried out without proper leadership and proper rank must be accorded to these leaders. As the army increases, as more new units and more training centers are set up, and as the selective service system brings new trainees in large numbers to the colors, additional temporary promotions will be necessary.

He said the advance of officers in the upper brackets will not interfere with advancement of younger men in the service.

Troy, Ala., Messenger
October 25, 1940

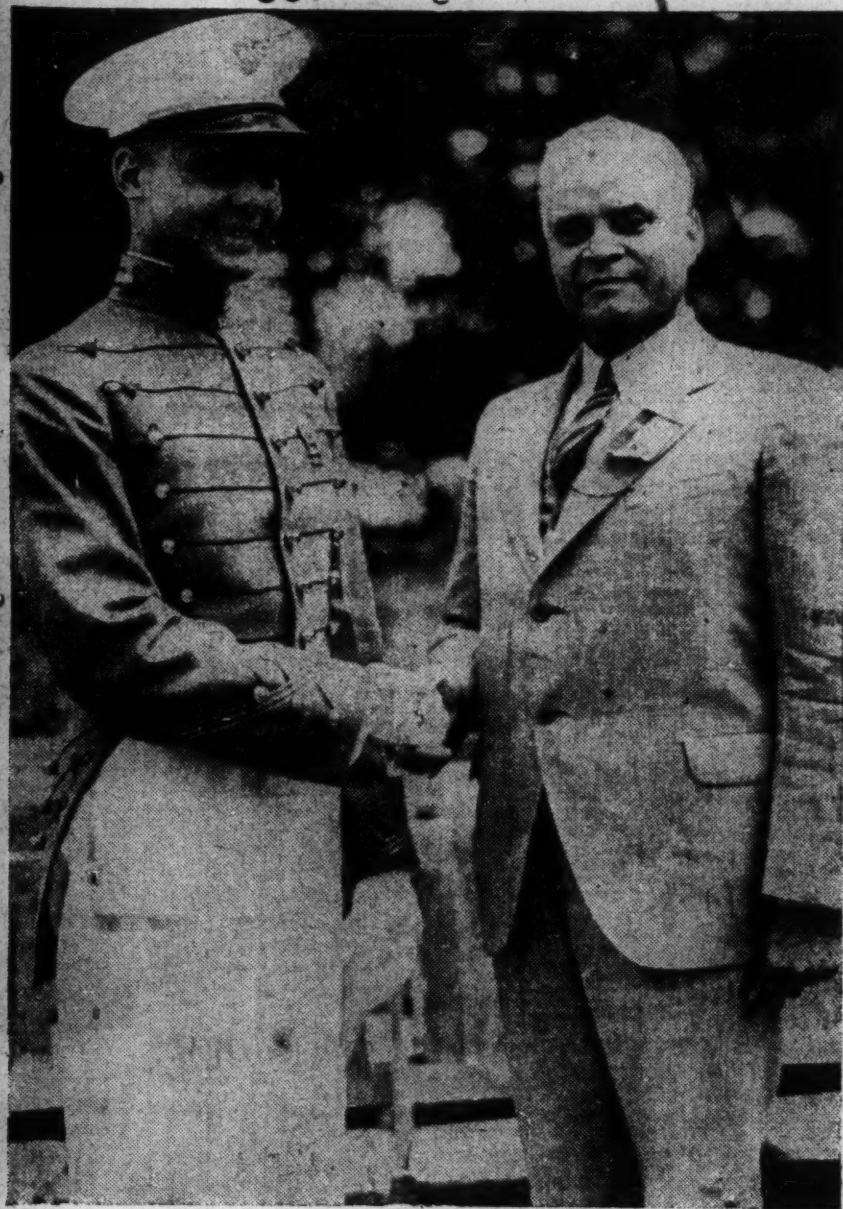
Negro Promoted To General's Post

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25—(AP)

—President Roosevelt announced the promotion of Colonel Benjamin D. Davis to become the first negro general in the army's history. Davis is to be a brigadier general in the cavalry.

Colonel Becomes First Of Negro Race To Attain Rank

OCT 26 1940



When the above picture was taken, Colonel Benjamin O. Davis (right) was extending congratulations to his son, B. O., Jr., upon his graduation from West Point. Friday, it was the other way around. The father was receiving congratulations from the nation upon his promotion to become the first Negro General in the United States Army's history. Davis' elevation to be a brigadier general in the cavalry, was among a number of high rank promotions which President Roosevelt announced and said were required by the increase of the Army.

Colonel Davis is the highest ranking of a relatively few Negro army officers. He has had 42 years of military service. Sixty-three years of age, he is a native of Washington, D. C.

Young Davis is a lieutenant in the United States army.

When the first mass promotions by President Roosevelt a few weeks ago did not include Colonel Davis, it was rumored that he would retire from the Army. He had been a brigade commander in New York state prior to his elevation to the brigadier generalship.

WHERE WILL OUR OFFICERS SERVE?

OCT 19 1940

The premise of the Administration in this new genuflection to ante-bellum American racialism, is that for reasons of morale and discipline, it is unwise to have members of the two so-called races serving in the same units, and therefore separate racial units are desirable and necessary.

Assuming for the sake of argument that this is correct (although mixed units have never been tried), why is it then desirable for regular army units to be officered only by whites?

Would it not be more reasonable in view of the jim crow premise, for white officers to command white troops and Negro officers to command Negro troops?

If it is necessary from the viewpoint of morale and discipline for white men to command Negroes, why not inaugurate a departure and assign Negro officers to command whites?

But seriously, where are Negro officers going to serve?

The White House says that they will only serve in units officered by colored personnel: i.e., in the Negro National Guard units and presumably such draft regiments composed of Negroes as may be later established.

There are no units in the regular army officered by colored personnel, and in consequence we are forced to the conclusion that Negroes who in the future graduate from the U.S. Military Academy, will not be assigned for service with regular army units.

It has always been the policy of the War Department to keep Negro officers as far away from active service with troops as possible by burying them in Tuskegee, Wilberforce or Liberia, but this is the first time that policy has been set down in black and white by the Commander-in-Chief.

THE CAPITAL PARADE

By JOSEPH ALSOP AND ROBERT KINTNER.

THE CAMPAIGN'S LAST DAYS WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—

The last days of a campaign are always a time when the political profession looks pretty scaly. It must be admitted, however, that the boys have recently touched new highs in the ipecac or slightly sick-making, line of political endeavor.

On the one hand, because the army decides not to mix Negro and white troops, the President finds himself in a peck of trouble with the Negro vote. Traditionally Republican, swung into the Democratic column in 1936 by James A. Farley's clever maneuvering, the Negro voters are returning to their original allegiance in any case. The tremendous ruckus raised in the Negro press over the segregation issue greatly accelerates the rate of return.

So the President suddenly appoints a Negro general, at the precise moment when the appointment inevitably appears as a frank political gesture rather than a reward of merit. Actually, the officer the President chose to promote is said, in the army, to be extremely able. There is not the slightest intention to raise, in this space, any question as to the abstract wisdom of the President's act. But the timing is incredibly unpleasant.

PRESENTING MR. PRESSMAN Then, on the other hand,

grinning with triumph over the sudden conversion of John L. Lewis, who has endorsed Wendell L. Willkie on the not uncommon principle of: "I could not love thee, dear, so much, loathed I not Franklin more." And, if anything, the satisfied delight of the Republicans over their new repentant sinner is even more disagreeable than the unashamed vote-scrabbling of their rivals.

Despite the majestic manner of his utterance, Lewis cannot be supposed to have been converted to Republicanism from any very high motives. Every informed person in Washington knows that he has been carrying on a rather petty personal row with the President for several years. Most informed persons also realize

are also drumming on. These circumstances alone suggest that the Republican joy over John Lewis does not indicate strong attachment to great principle. The picture created by the background of Lewis' decision grows all the more unpleasant, moreover, when the possible effects of the decision are also considered. The rank and file of organized labor is not likely to be influenced by Lewis. That was proved at the convention of the New York CIO, when all but a small minority of extreme left-wing unions defied Lewis' commands and endorsed the President. Even among Lewis' own mine workers, most of the really influential lesser leaders have already announced for Roosevelt. Thus the probable effect of Lewis' speech boils down to swinging the same extreme left-wingers who stuck with him in the New York fight.

If the New York election is close, these votes may perhaps swing it, and if the election in the country is close, carrying New York will give Willkie the victory. Considering what a tremendous rumpus Republicans made over Communist support of Roosevelt in 1936, this cannot be considered a really glorious prospect of victory. Yet, as the other side is behaving, in its own way, just about as badly, there is nothing for the unfortunate average man to do but proclaim, "A plague on both your houses," and wait grimly until political passions subside and the country returns to its senses.

For Pressman has been present at enough scenes of disension, during the New Deal years, to earn the title of the fifth horseman of the Apocalypse. He was in the AAA when Jerome Frank followed such extreme policies that he, Pressman and four others had to be expelled. Pressman was at the WPA, working with former Administrator Harry L. Hopkins, when Hopkins became involved in a completely idiotic quarrel with Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes. Pressman was close to Rex Tugwell when the resettlement administrator began making the foolish speeches that not altogether unfortunately earned his eventual dismissal.

When Pressman moved to the CIO, Lewis' difficulties with the President soon began to be serious. And it is particularly interesting that Lewis should have broken finally, and forever, with his former political ally when the Communist party line has turned strongly anti-Roosevelt, and that Lewis should have made so much in his speech of the so-called "peace issue" which the Communists

Colonel Becomes First Of Negro Race To Attain Rank

OCT 26 1940



WHERE WILL OUR OFFICERS SERVE?

The premise of the Administration in this new generation to ante-bellum American radicalism, is that for reasons of morale and discipline, it is unwise to have members of the two so-called races serving in the same units, and therefore separate racial units are desirable and necessary.

Assuming for the sake of argument that this is correct (although mixed units have never been tried); why is it then desirable for regular army units to be officered only by whites?

Would it not be more reasonable in view of the Jim Crow premise, for white officers to command white troops and Negro officers to command Negro troops?

If it is necessary from the viewpoint of morale and discipline for white men to command Negroes, why not inaugurate a departure and assign Negro officers to command whites?

But seriously, where are Negro officers going to serve? The White House says that they will only serve in units officered by colored personnel: i.e., in the Negro National Guard units and presumably such draft regiments composed of Negroes as may be later established.

There are no units in the regular army officered by colored personnel, and in consequence we are forced to the conclusion that Negroes who in the future graduate from the U.S. Military Academy, will not be assigned for service with regular army units.

It has always been the policy of the War Department to keep Negro officers as far away from active service with troops as possible by burying them in Tuskegee, Wilberforce or Liberia, but this is the first time that policy has been set down in black and white by the Commander-in-Chief.

THE CAPITAL PARADE

By JOSEPH ALSOP AND ROBERT KINTNER.

THE CAMPAIGN'S LAST DAYS WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—

The last days of a campaign are always a time when the political profession looks pretty scaly. It must be admitted, however, that the boys have recently touched new highs in the degree of slightly sick-making, line of political endeavor.

On the one hand, because the army decides not to mix Negro and white troops, the President finds himself in a peck of trouble with the Negro vote. Traditionally Republican, swung into the Democratic column in 1936 by James A. Farley's clever maneuvering, the Negro voters are returning to their original allegiance in any case. The tremendous ruckus raised in the Negro press over the segregation issue greatly accelerates the rate of return.

So the President suddenly appoints a Negro general, at the precise moment when the appointment inevitably appears as a frank political gesture rather than a reward of merit. Actually, the officer the President chose to promote is said, in the army, to be extremely able. There is not the slightest intention to raise, in this space, any question as to the abstract wisdom of the President's act. But the timing is undeniably exceedingly unpleasant.

PRESENTING MR. PRESSMAN

Then, on the other hand, the Republicans are smugly grinning with triumph over the sudden conversion of John L. Lewis, who has indorsed Wendell L. Willkie on the not uncommon principle of: "I could not love thee, dear, so much, loathed I not Franklin more." And, if anything, the satisfied delight of the Republicans over their new repentant sinner is even more disagreeable than the unashamed vote-scrabbling of their rivals.

Despite the majestic manner of his utterance, Lewis cannot be supposed to have been converted to Republicanism from any very high motives. Every informed person in Washington knows that he has been carrying on a rather petty personal row with the President for several years. Most informed persons also realize

that Lewis was probably heavily influenced in his decision by Lee Pressman, general counsel of the CIO. Pressman is not a person the Republicans can feel cosy with. Although he is so described by a good many persons who know his record, he stoutly denies that he is a Communist fellow traveler. But whether he meets the technical definition, he is certainly one of the most powerful and extreme left-wingers in Washington.

Both he and Lewis may also deny that he had any part in Lewis' decision to turn against the President. But, if he did not, then it may be supposed that Smith, the famous brides-in-the-bath murderer, whose three wives "just happened" to drown in tin baths after yielding up their savings to their spouse, was probably an innocent man.

For Pressman has been present at enough scenes of dissension, during the New Deal years, to earn the title of the fifth horseman of the Apocalypse. He was in the AAA when Jerome Frank followed such extreme policies that he, Pressman and four others had to be expelled. Pressman was at the WPA, working with former Administrator Harry L. Hopkins, when Hopkins became involved in a completely idiotic quarrel with Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes. Pressman was close to Rex Tugwell when the resettlement administrator began making the foolish speeches that not altogether unfortunately earned his eventual dismissal.

When Pressman moved to the CIO, Lewis' difficulties with the President soon began to be serious. And it is particularly interesting that Lewis should have broken finally, and forever, with his former political ally when the Communist party line has turned strongly anti-Roosevelt, and that Lewis should have made so much in his speech of the so-called "peace issue" which the Communists

are also drumming on. These circumstances alone suggest that the Republican joy over John Lewis does not indicate strong attachment to great principle. The picture created by the background of Lewis' decision grows all the more unpleasant, moreover, when the possible effects of the decision are also considered. The rank and file of organized labor is not likely to be influenced by Lewis. That was proved at the convention of the New York CIO, when all but a small minority of extreme left-wing unions defied Lewis' commands and indorsed the President. Even among Lewis' own mine workers, most of the really influential lesser leaders have already announced for Roosevelt. Thus the probable effect of Lewis' speech boils down to swinging the same extreme left-wingers who stuck with him in the New York fight.

If the New York election is close, these votes may perhaps swing it, and if the election in the country is close, carrying New York will give Willkie the victory. Considering what a tremendous rumpus Republicans made over Communist support of Roosevelt in 1936, this cannot be considered a really glorious prospect of victory. Yet, as the other side is behaving, in its own way, just about as badly, there is nothing for the unfortunate average man to do but proclaim, "A plague on both your houses," and wait grimly until political passions subside and the country returns to its senses.

NO MORE 1917-18

In a letter to Walter White, NAACP head, Presidential Secretary Edwin M. Watson writes that:

"The War Department proposes to place Negro Reserve officers on extended active duty as required to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel. Although the number of such vacancies cannot be determined accurately at this time, it is probable that the majority of eligible Negro Reserve officers will be required."

The letter also pledges that "When Officers' Candidate schools are established, provision will be made to include qualified Negroes." On aviation training it repeats the old run-around.

The reputation of the War Department in dealing with the Negro has been so consistently dishonest and evasive, that colored citizens are justifiably suspicious of its moves and skeptical about its promises.

They are not unaware of the fact that in the War Department's promotion of over 100 colonels to the rank of brigadier general a few days ago, Colonel B. O. Davis, the ranking Negro officer, was skipped over, thus following in the footsteps of Woodrow Wilson's War Department which hustled Colonel Charles Young into retirement on the fake excuse of physical disability.

Colored Americans are determined that there shall be no repetition of the disgraceful 1917-18 treatment, or rather mistreatment, of its soldiers and officers.

These official communications are written very carefully and should be read in the same way.

There is something ominous in the Watson statement that Negro Reserve officers will be called "to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel," because the only units so officered are the three Negro National Guard regiments. Not a single other army unit is so officered.

How is it "probable" that most of the Negro Reserve officers will be required, if they are only to fill vacancies "in units now officered by colored personnel?"

It is stated by the War Department that around 36,000 Negroes will be called in the first draft. With an average of about 1,800 men to a regiment, this will come to about 20 regiments.

As our Washington correspondent pointed out last week, there are 2,000 Negro Reserve officers available, or much more than enough to completely officer these Negro units. There is no "probable" about that.

Colored Americans are getting sick and tired of this ambiguity and evasiveness. They want straightforward assurance that all Negro units will be officered by Negroes and that the Negrophobic run-around will cease.

They will tolerate no repetition of the vicious color discrimination practiced in 1917-18.

ONE WORD MORE

By RALPH MCGILL OCT 30 1940

SERIAL NUMBER 158 From Washington we could hear the great burst of applause from the crowd gathered to witness the drawing of numbers for the peace-time selective service army.

Sitting in the office of local board Number 9, we were ready to check the numbers. We heard the number called, serial Number 158, and heard, too, the woman cry out in the crowd at Washington. Her son had been the first to be called in the Washington district.

We checked our own list. Number 158 was listed on the records as Willie Taylor, a Negro.

In Washington the mother was on the air, saying how proud she was for her son to serve. Later the boy's father came on to say he, too, was proud and was sorry he did not have more sons to serve.

The director of the Selective Service Act talked with the father and mother. There was time, even, for a little joke. The mother said she had never dreamed she would hear her son's name called first. Director Dykstra said that when he first heard the Selective Service Act mentioned he certainly never dreamed he would be present. It went off pleasantly. Later on, another chap had to be told his number had been posted. He hadn't noticed it. There was much laughter.

What was important was that never once was there any hint of heel-clicking, harsh military rule. Here was an army being chosen. Yet it was done in our own way. It was evident that only in isolated instances is there any opposition to the plan of this nation to arm itself so that it may be safe from aggression.

There will be tears and sweat and toil. The nation will take on a new thought and will, one may hope, dedicate itself to service as are the men called.

What all of us should have liked about it was the American atmosphere of good nature, friendliness and good will. There was no hint of the harsh and hard totalitarian military machine about it. It was a draft. Yet it obviously was democratic in method and spirit.

TOO MANY APPEASERS One of the things which I have come to fear most in Mr. Willkie is that he may, should he be elected, turn into the camp of the appeasers.

There are few about him who are not appeasers of the ranker sort. The list is long.

Senator McNary, his running mate, is one.

Joe Martin strongly opposed repealing the embargo act to permit aid to England.

Hiram Johnson is an appeaser.

Herbert Hoover is one of the most ardent supporters of the theory this nation should make a deal with Hitler.

Lindbergh has made national speeches advocating it.

John L. Lewis is a bitter and consistent appeaser.

All these are close to Wendell Willkie. It is impossible to believe they will not have some influence on him should he be elected, as it now seems he may.

We all know where Willkie has stood. But where does he stand now, having accepted and indorsed the support of the appeasers who have flocked to his standards?

That is a fair question.

Are the young men who gladly are entering the army to serve for a year to find, in the end, their nation had its fingers crossed? Most of them are willing to go only because they believe Hitler menaces their country and the future of the American system of government and life. Are they to find, should Mr. Willkie be elected, that the nation is to compromise with Hitler as Lindbergh, Lewis, Hoover and others advocate?

Why have all these men and their followers gone into the Willkie camp?

NOW GEN. DAVIS

OCT 26 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25—President Roosevelt announced today the appointment of Col. Benjamin O. Davis of the 369th Coast Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) New York National Guard, a brigadier general, the first colored general in the United States army.

General Davis began army life as a private, and rose from the ranks through the several gradations as corporal, sergeant, first and second lieutenant, captain, major lieutenant to colonel and now brigadier general. His career is striking proof of the opportunities for advancement which the army service affords enlisted men.

Davis served some time in the Philippine Islands. During recent years he has been in command of the 369 Infantry, New York National defense program was converted to the 369th Coast Artillery. The unit will be mobilized for a year of training at Fort Ontario, N. Y. to begin early in January.

Davis's appointment as brigadier-general will sever his connection with the 369th as its colonel. Where he is to exercise command in his new elevation to the rank of general was not disclosed.

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE The Emporia Gazette of October 17 carried an editorial by William Allen White, who supports Mr. Willkie but who wonders about appeasement. He concludes as follows:

"If Britain defeats Germany, we can slow down our armament, but if Germany defeats Britain, we are in the devil's own fix. It will not be because we have armed Britain that we shall have to fight. Scandinavia, Holland, Belgium, France did not arm Britain. All but France tried to be neutral, as Lindbergh advises. And what did it buy them? And our arming Britain will have nothing to do with the attack which Hitler will make upon this country."

"Why? Because Hitler's whole philosophy, his idea of government, his economic setup, his insatiable ambitions, all make it impossible for a free country and a free people to live beside Hitler's world enslaved."

"The President whom Lindbergh attacks has recognized for three years what Americans generally understand all too well today. It is because Mr. Roosevelt blazed the trail of public opinion in 1937, that all appeasers today hate him most bitterly. That is the real animus behind the Lindbergh attack. It is not love for Mr. Willkie, nor faith in Mr. Willkie, but hatred for Mr. Roosevelt that inspires those who would appease Hitler and the tyrants."

If those who would appease Hitler hate Mr. Roosevelt it is but natural the dictators should hate him. These appeasers probably are in Willkie camp because Roosevelt opposes appeasement. This is true—all those who would appease Hitler and cease aiding England—are in the Republican camp.

There must be some answer.

NO MORE 1917-18

ONE WORD MORE

NOW GEN. DAVIS

By RALPH MCGILL OCT 30 1940

SERIAL NUMBER 158

From Washington we could hear the great burst of applause from the crowd gathered to witness the drawing of numbers for the peace-time selective service army.

Sitting in the office of local board Number 9, we were ready to check the numbers. We heard the number called, serial Number 158, and heard, too, the woman cry out in the crowd at Washington. Her son had been the first to be called in the Washington district. We checked our own list. Number 158 was listed on the records as Willie Taylor, a Negro.

In Washington the mother was on the air, saying how proud she was for her son to serve. Later the boy's father came on to say he, too, was proud and was sorry he did not have more sons to serve.

The director of the Selective Service Act talked with the father and mother. There was time, even, for a little joke. The mother said she had never dreamed she would hear her son's name called first. Director Dykstra said that when he first heard the Selective Service Act mentioned he certainly never dreamed he would be present. It went off pleasantly. Later on, another chap had to be told his number had been posted. He hadn't noticed it. There was much laughter.

What was important was that never once was there any hint of heel-clicking, harsh military rule. Here was an army being chosen. Yet it was done in our own way. It was evident that only in isolated instances is there any opposition to the plan of this nation to arm itself so that it may be safe from aggression.

There will be tears and sweat and toil. The nation will take on new thought and will, one may hope, dedicate itself to service as the men called.

What all of us should have liked about it was the American atmosphere of good nature, friendliness and good will. There was no hint of the harsh and hard totalitarian military machine about it. It was a draft. Yet it obviously was democratic in method and spirit.

TOO MANY APPEASERS

One of the things which I have come to fear most in Mr. Willkie is that he may, should he be elected, turn into the camp of the appeasers.

There are few about him who are not appeasers of the ranker sort. The list is long.

Senator McNary, his running mate, is one.

Joe Martin strongly opposed repealing the embargo act to permit aid to England.

Hiram Johnson is an appeaser.

Herbert Hoover is one of the most ardent supporters of the theory this nation should make a deal with Hitler.

Lindbergh has made national speeches advocating it.

John L. Lewis is a bitter and consistent appeaser.

All these are close to Wendell Willkie. It is impossible to believe they will not have some influence on him should he be elected, as it now seems he may.

We all know where Willkie has stood. But where does he stand now, having accepted and indorsed the support of the appeasers who have flocked to his standards?

That is a fair question.

OCT 26 1940

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25—President Roosevelt announced today the appointment of Col. Benjamin O. Davis of the 369th Central Postal Directory (Anti-Aircraft) New York National Guard, the first colored general in the United States army.

General Davis began army life as a private, and rose from the ranks through the several gradations as corporal, sergeant, first and second lieutenant, captain, major lieutenant colonel to colonel and now brigadier general. His career is striking proof of the opportunities for advancement of the army service affords enlisted men.

Davis served some time in the Philippine Islands. During recent years he has been in command of the 369th Central Postal Directory. The unit will be mobilized for a year of training at Fort Ontario, N. Y. to begin early in January.

Davis's appointment as brigadier general will sever his connection with the 369th as its colonel. Where he is to exercise command in his new elevation to the rank of general was not disclosed.

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE The Emporia Gazette of October 17 carried an editorial by William Allen White, who supports Mr. Willkie but who wonders about appeasement. He concludes as follows:

"If Britain defeats Germany, we can slow down our armament, but if Germany defeats Britain, we are in the devil's own fix. It will not be because we have armed Britain that we shall have to fight. Scandinavia, Holland, Belgium, France did not arm Britain. All but France tried to be neutral, as Lindbergh advises. And what did it buy them? And our arming Britain will have nothing to do with the attack which Hitler will make upon this country.

"Why? Because Hitler's whole philosophy, his idea of government, his economic setup, his insatiable ambitions, all make it impossible for a free country and a free people to live beside Hitler's world enslaved.

"The President whom Lindbergh attacks has recognized for three years what Americans generally understand all too well today. It is because Mr. Roosevelt blazed the trail of public opinion in 1937, that all appeasers today hate him most bitterly. That is the real animus behind the Lindbergh attack. It is not love for Mr. Willkie, nor faith in Mr. Willkie, but hatred for Mr. Roosevelt that inspires those who would appease Hitler and the tyrants."

If those who would appease Hitler hate Mr. Roosevelt it is but natural the dictators should hate him. These appeasers probably are in Willkie camp because Roosevelt opposes appeasement.

This is true—all those who would appease Hitler and cease aiding England—are in the Republican camp. There must be some answer.

In a letter to Walter White, NAACP head, Presidential Secretary Edwin M. Watson writes that:

"The War Department proposes to place Negro Reserve officers on extended active duty as required to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel. Although the number of such vacancies cannot be determined accurately at this time, it is probable that the majority of eligible Negro Reserve officers will be required."

The letter also pledges that "When Officers' Candidate schools are established, provision will be made to include qualified Negroes." Aviation training it repeats the old run-around.

The reputation of the War Department in dealing with the Negro has been so consistently dishonest and evasive, that colored citizens are justifiably suspicious of its moves and skeptical about its promises.

They are not unaware of the fact that in the War Department's promotion of over 100 colonels to the rank of brigadier general a few days ago, Colonel B. O. Davis, the ranking Negro officer, was skipped over, thus following in the footsteps of Woodrow Wilson's War Department which hustled Colonel Charles Young into retirement on the fake excuse of physical disability.

Colored Americans are determined that they shall be no repetition of the disgraceful 1917-18 treatment, or rather mistreatment, of its soldiers and officers.

These official communications are written very carefully and should be read in the same way.

There is something ominous in the Watson statement that Negro Reserve officers will be called "to fill vacancies in units now officered by colored personnel," because the only units so officered are the three Negro National Guard regiments. Not a single other army unit is so officered.

How is it "probable" that most of the Negro Reserve officers will be required, if they are only to fill vacancies "in units now officered by colored personnel?"

It is stated by the War Department that around 36,000 Negroes will be called in the first draft. With an average of about 1,800 men to a regiment, this will come to about 20 regiments.

As our Washington correspondent pointed out last week, there are 2,000 Negro Reserve officers available, or much more than enough to completely officer these Negro units. There is no "probable" about that.

Colored Americans are getting sick and tired of this ambiguity and evasiveness. They want straight forward assurance that all Negro units will be officered by Negroes and that the Negro phobic run-around will cease.

They will tolerate no repetition of the vicious color discrimination practiced in 1917-18.

OCT 12 1940

OCT 12 1940

Gen. Hugh S. Johnson Calls High Army Rank for Negro Tricky Politics

By HUGH S. JOHNSON
BOSTON, Mass.—Colonel Benjamin O. Davis [colored], just appointed brigadier general, is a fine man. He has won the respect of his fellow officers by 42 years of service in a most difficult situation. One of the greatest of Negro-Americans, Colonel Charles Young, once said to me: "If I wanted complete revenge on a superman, I wouldn't send him to hell. I would make him a Negro officer in a white army." Colonel Young himself stood that so well, that even young Southern white officers felt privileged to serve in his command. He was one of the ablest and most cultured officers of his time.

This column has no racial or religious prejudices. It has frequently insisted on recognition, without discrimination, of Negro talent in every calling. But the appointment of General Davis is terrible, not because he is a Negro, but because it is rank discrimination against his brother officers, ruinous to the army, and a second great step in the destruction of morale and the success of the draft. The appointment of Elliott Roosevelt was the first.

Colonel Davis has only one year left to serve. Formerly it was a practice to appoint old colonels to be generals on the eve of their compulsory retirement at 64. For years this practice has been abandoned in the public interest. Unless a man has at least four years to serve, he gets no stars. Most recent elevations to general rank have been of men about 58.

As a result, some of the brightest and ablest officers in the army have been frustrated and retired because they had less than four years to serve. This rule was grossly violated in the case of General Davis. If it be said that it was done simply because he deserved it, then why was it not done four years ago? Then it could have meant something to General Davis. Now, since he can only serve one year, it is to him but an empty gesture, and to the army complete demerit.

Recently, promotion to the grade of general has been made strictly on relative merit as disclosed by the officer's whole record of rated efficiency in 25 or more years of service. General Davis is an excellent man, but there are literally scores of officers in the age-groups from which generals are made whose records rate much higher.

Finally, General Davis is not a cavalryman, is to command a cavalry brigade, two Negro regular regiments of which all or nearly all the officers are white, from the grade of colonel down. That just doesn't work. I say that as a matter of cold hard fact, not

prejudice. Colonel Young's case was a miraculous exception. General Davis is not Colonel Young. It would shatter the spirit of those regiments.

It has been suggested that, to avoid this result, all the white officers could be transferred out. Negro officers in the reserve corps would be called to active duty and put in command of these regular regiments, squadrons and troops.

To anybody who knows the army, that is a shocking suggestion. In the first place, except in close association with professionals, run of mill amateur officers are utterly incompetent to command regular troops. Such a move would simply write two regiments off the roster so far as utility is concerned. In the second place, trained Negro troops are peers of the best soldiers on earth when commanded by white officers. As our whole experience shows, for some reason I leave to others to explain, they don't seem to like to serve under Negro officers and under such conditions they never have done well. Frequently they have done disastrously.

In view of all facts, why was this done on the eve of election—for efficiency of the army and national defense? Obviously for politics and the Negro vote and at a cost of so great a destruction of morale and efficiency that it can scarcely be measured.

The curse of our army up to 1917 was politics and favoritism in the appointment of officers. It lost battles and the lives of tens of thousands. In the Civil war it threatened the union. Woodrow Wilson abolished it with one clean sweep. Franklin Roosevelt is restoring it with reckless, ruthless abandon. If an act was needed to raise a doubt of his leadership in defense, this is it.

It wasn't ever good politics. Negroes are not fools. They are as shrewd as any other Americans. They will see the emptiness of the trick political gesture. The endorsement of Mr. Willkie by their idol, Joe Louis, is 10 times more important to them.

PROMOTED



Wide World Photo
BRIG. GEN. BENJ. O. DAVIS

F.D.R. Names Negro General

OCT 25 1940
WASHINGTON, Oct. 25 (AP).—

President Roosevelt today announced the promotion of Col. Benjamin O. Davis to be a brigadier general, the first Negro general in the army's history.

At the same time the War Dept. transferred Maj. Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the air corps, to a newly created post of deputy chief of staff.

Maj. Gen. George H. Brett, an assistant to Arnold, will be air corps chief.

In his new post, Arnold is charged with co-ordinating all air corps activities.

Also Rear Admiral Arthur B. Cook, former chief of the Naval Bureau of Aeronautics, was assigned to command all of the navy's aircraft in the Atlantic.

His Greatest Pride

The pride of Benjamin Oliver Davis Sr. in his rise from the ranks to a position never before held by a Negro in the U. S. army is secondary to his pride in the fact that the only other line officer of his race is Benjamin Oliver Davis Jr.

Davis Sr. entered the army in 1898 and shortly became a first lieutenant. By the time of the World War he was a lieutenant colonel. In 1929 he stood alone on the army lists as a line officer when Lieut. Col. John E. Green retired.

The junior Davis was graduated from West Point in 1936, after having passed the most rigid physical tests to enter, and a period of "coventry" (silence from the rest of the student body) to remain. He is a lieutenant.

Gen. Davis has served as instructor at the ROTC unit at Wilberforce University, Ohio, and as commander of the 369th Infantry, N. Y. National Guard. He is 63 and will reach retirement age next July 1.

Will U. S. Senate Confirm Colonel Davis?

NOV 16 1940
WASHINGTON, Nov. 14—(By ANP)—

Will the Senate confirm the promotion of General Davis as presented by the President when the name is offered in that body? All army promotions above certain ranks must be presented and confirmed by the Senate and with the Senate holding merely desultory meetings at this time, speculation on the confirmation has been wide spread in the city.

Many angles of the promotion are being heard in town, both pro and con—with many taking the attitude that the appointment which comes just a year prior to General Davis' retirement is an empty gesture.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
November 1, 1940

Here Is the Issue

To promote a negro colonel in the army to be a brigadier general is one thing; to promote him over the heads of a number of colonels ranking higher in numbers on the eve of a presidential election in which the commander-in-chief of the army is a candidate for a third term is another and a different thing. Apparently he was promoted over white colonels because he is negro.

The White House is the home of the president and his wife. When a party of negro men and women are entertained in it at sea it is the declaration of the White House for the social intermingling of the white and colored races.

For President and Mrs. Roosevelt to make this declaration is their legal right. It would be their legal right to come to Charleston, Columbia, Conway, or Laurens, hire a house or suite of rooms in a hotel, and entertain white and colored guests at the same time at their table.

It is for the plain people of South Carolina to say what they think about these doings, to say it at the polls next Tuesday. Their leaders are silent on the subject. The people are guideless. They must decide for themselves.

In 1942, when shall be candidates for United States senator, governor and other offices, the silence may be explained.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 ORGANIZATIONS OF

Mobile, Ala., Register
October 6, 1940

Colored Legion Post Seeks More Members

A campaign to increase its membership has been launched by the Britton McKenzie (colored) Post of the American Legion. Colored veterans of the World War may apply for particulars at Burke's Barber Shop, 1002 Davis Avenue, each Monday night, or at the Davis Avenue Community House, at Davis and Cedar. The drive will continue to November 14.

Greenville, S. C. News
August 23, 1940

Negro War Veterans Will Meet Tonight

Negro World war veterans of Greenville county will meet at Phillips Wheatley center tonight at 8 o'clock.

A number of business matters will be discussed.

Chas. Young War Mothers Fete Friends

Col. Charles Young Chapter of American War Mothers entertained their many friends at a musical tea, Sunday, Oct. 13, in the beautiful home of Mrs. Lillian J. Rhodes, 415 East Sixtieth street. The following persons appeared on the program: Reuben Young, a baritone solo; June Johnson, piano solo; Mesdames Joan Snowden, Mary Clarke and Atty. Alva Bates were speakers; J. H. Jackson, baritone solo; community singing led by Mrs. Martha Parks and accompanied by Mrs. Nina Firse.

The guests were served tea by Mesdames Ressie Harper, Lula Scurlock, Genevieve Coleman and Nettie McCree. The registrars were Mesdames Minnie Carpenter and Lucile A. Johnson. The president, Mrs. Sadie L. Adams, was mistress of ceremonies and Mrs. Martha Parks is secretary.

COLORED "VETS" PLAY BIG PART IN LEGION CONVENTION

Many Negro Units Seen In Great Parade Held In Boston

OCT 18 1940

BOSTON, Oct. 10 (ANP)—With delegates and visitors here from 24 states, the great throng pouring in by train, bus, auto and airplane, with all hotel accommodations sold out before noon on Monday and private dwellings taxed to capacity, Boston was host last week to the 22nd national convention of the American Legion.

New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia, New Jersey, Illinois and Ohio were the states sending the largest number of colored Legionnaires and the convention headquarters at Prince Hall Masonic Temple was the mecca of various delegations, their bands and drum and bugle corps.

On Wednesday at Shaw House, Carter Post Auxiliary entertained the women delegates and visitors with an afternoon tea, the program being arranged by Jessie Harris, chairman, assisted by Mrs. Louise Perry and Mrs. Marshall Cass.

Among the prominent units represented by the colored Vets were the 92nd and 93rd Divisions, and there were scores of reunions wherever and whenever these Buddies of the World War days got together. On Wednesday night a review and drill for delegates and visitors was given by the 3rd Battalion, 372 Inf., M. N. G., at Irbington Street Armory, Major A. L. Davis and staff being in charge of the guardsmen.

Heading the local committee on arrangements was Marshal Cass, Commander of William E. Carter Post, and he was ably assisted by Legionnaires Percy Steele, George H. Simmons, William B. Reid, John W. Crockett, Henry C. Beckett, Clarence A. Dozier and Henry Perry. The Boston Trade association was also host to the delegates, their wives and friends.

Monday evening along Camden street and Columbus avenue, just prior to the long-heralded "Cootie"

parade of the Forty 'n' Eight, several Negro units from various parts of the country strutted their stuff to the delight of hundreds of on-lookers. Units represented were Federal and Walter Green Posts, No. 14, Baltimore; Emmett Guyton Post, Newark, N. J.; Lincoln Post, Philadelphia; George P. Davis Post, No. 116, Brooklyn; Chas. Young Post No. 77, Detroit; Jas. Reese Europe Post, Washington.

Arcadia, Fla., Arcadian
October 17, 1940

LOCAL MEMBERS OF AMERICAN LEGION HEAR REQUEST FOR A COLORED VETERANS' POST

At the monthly meeting of K Post, American Legion, held Monday night at the Legion Hall, forty-eight members heard a request by a representative of colored veterans for a Colored Veterans' Post in Arcadia, to be under supervision of K Post.

C. R. Mills, colored, pastor of the A. M. E. church, presented the request for permission to organize. While appearing before the body, he gave his views on Americanism, which were well-received, and during which he pointed out that it would be better for the American Legion to direct the colored veterans in the way of democracy than to allow them to be directed and possibly won over by subversive or radical groups.

Special Committee Appointed

Since the national organization of the American Legion had gone on record some years ago as agreeing to the formation of posts by colored veterans—not as American Legion Posts, but as Colored Veterans' Posts—K Post members went on record as granting permission for a colored unit here.

Commander George Stonebraker appointed a Committee on Negro Affairs and gave them power to act on the request. The committee is composed of Paul Kemp, chairman, Claude C. Jones and Frank Wittbecker.

Discussion of the matter Monday evening revealed that there are about thirty Colored Veterans' Posts in Florida, all under the supervision of American Legion Units, and are said to be of considerable value in bettering conditions among the colored population. The benefit of directed activities in the betterment of health and sanitation conditions was among the instances mentioned in which value was obvious.

Americanism Is Only Is 'ism' Wanted Here, Veterans Are Told

NOV 12 1940

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—America need not apologize to any nation for our form of government and the only "ism" there is room for in this country is Americanism, Capt. C. Arthur Cheatham, director of veterans service for the state of Georgia, told a group of veterans of World War I, at Armistice Day services at Tuskegee Institute.

Capt. Cheatham said the American Legion has been called an organization promoting war. He declared this was not the truth and said the American Legion knows the meaning of war, its horror, sorrow and pain.

The speaker was introduced by Dr. Eugene H. Dibble, Jr., manager of the Veterans Facility here. The program was sponsored by Britton G. McKenzie Post No. 150, of the American Legion, Robert E. McDonald, commander.

The Twenty - Fourth Infantry Band, from Fort Benning, furnished the music for celebration. Guests included Com. Roland Anderson, of the Charles Fletcher Post, American Legion, and B. B. Walcott, executive secretary of the Tuskegee Institute Chapter of the American Red Cross. St. Petersburg, Fla., Independent
October 19, 1940

Negro Veterans To Sponsor Local Student Orator

The Colored World War Veterans, post No. 9 will sponsor a contestant in the annual oratorical contest in Tallahassee at the an-

nual state meeting of the veterans in the early spring. Any boy or girl who attends Gibbs High school and desires to enter the contest may contact Commander Clark.

The Sons of Veterans, post No. 9, (negro) under the leadership of Capt. Charlie Tutson, are planning the development of a safety patrol at the two negro elementary schools of the city. This group of boys last Wednesday cleaned up the colored Royal cemetery.

Delray Beach, Fla., News
November 1, 1940

Colored Veterans Will Parade on Armistice Day

The Sherman Williams Post No. 19, Colored Veterans of the World War, of Delray Beach, will entertain colored veterans of the Fifth District in an Armistice Day celebration here on Sunday, November 5th.

Members of posts from Key West, Coconut Grove, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale and Ft. Pierce will come to Delray Beach for this celebration. Exercises will be held at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church at 11 o'clock. After the exercises, there will be a parade through Delray Beach, and the veterans, their guests and families will adjourn to the south end of the ocean beach for a climax to the celebration.

Walter Burgess is the commander of the local post, and S. D. Spady is adjutant. Dave Hogan is the head of the special committee in charge of preparations for the celebration. The Armistice Day event is being held on Sunday due to the fact that Armistice Day falls on Monday, and a number of the participants would have to work on that day.

St. Petersburg P. Times
December 5, 1940

Colored Veterans

of the World war, Post No. 9, will hold an important meeting Friday night at 8 o'clock at the Elks' Rest, Second avenue south between Ninth and Tenth streets. Negro veterans and auxiliary members are asked to attend.

Armistice Day Parade Slated

Gen. Steiner, Other Veterans to Review Spectacle Here

General R. E. Steiner and a staff of other high-ranking veterans will review the giant Armistice Day parade next Monday from the balcony of the Jefferson Davis hotel.

Staged in the midst of national defense preparations, the parade will honor registrants of the 1940 draft. They will be asked to join in the march, along with veterans and members of patriotic societies. A special section will be set aside for them.

Gen. W. P. Screws, general chairman of the parade committee, announced the parade will be reviewed by Gen. Steiner and a staff, which will include George Cleere, Alabama commander of the American Legion.

Also at the reviewing stand will be representatives of the Gold Star Mothers of Montgomery County, and city and county officials.

The parade will form Monday morning in the vicinity of the Capitol. All units should be ready to march at 10 a.m.

A special section will be set aside for negro veterans and patriotic organizations, headed by E. P. Wallace, president of the Adult Teachers Association.

Members of the general parade committee include: Gen. Screws, Walter Knabe, Millard Westcott, Everett Jackson, Silas Cater, Jack Chambliss and B. B. Vail.

Wacon, Ga., News

November 12, 1940

Fight for Democracy To Go on--Cheatham

TUSKEGEE, Ala., [AP] — C. Arthur Cheatham, state veterans service officer for Georgia, declared yesterday that the American Legion will "continue to exert its efforts to insure the present generation its right to live in this great democracy as a free and independent people."

Addressing Negro veterans of the first World War in an Armistice day program at Tuskegee Institute, he asserted:

"We should teach America that inasmuch as we believe in God and country, we are charged with

the responsibility of inculcating into the minds of citizens of this country that America needs not to apologize to any nation or country for our form of government.

Montgomery Ala. Age-Herald

November 12, 1940

TUSKEGEE HEARS CAPT. CHEATHAM

Youth Of America Will Stand Firm, View Of Service Leader

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Nov. 11—Capt. C. Arthur Cheatham, director of the veterans service in Georgia, told Negro veterans of the World War in an Armistice Day program here that "our American youth will stand forever firm in the defense of American ideals and interests."

"Americans are not red nor are they yellow," the speaker said. "We know that they are willing to die for their country as their fathers did when the occasion arises to preserve democracy."

"We should teach America that inasmuch as we believe in God and country, we are charged with the responsibility of inculcating into the minds of the citizens of this country that America need not apologize to any nation for our form of government."

Capt. Cheatham paid tribute to Booker T. Washington for "pointing the way to true Americanism" and aiding his people; to his successor, Dr. Robert R. Moton; the achievements of Dr. George Washington Carver, Tuskegee scientist, and to Dr. Frederic Douglass Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute.

The speaker said the American Legion is not promoting war, but that it "will continue to exert its efforts to insure the present generation its right to live in this great democracy as a free people."

The Twenty-Fourth Infantry Band from Fort Benning, Ga., furnished music in the program sponsored by the Britton G. McKenzie Post No. 150, American Legion, of which Roger E. McDonald is commander.

Columbia, S. C. State

November 10, 1940

General Miles Meets 371st At Spartanburg

To the Editor of The State:
Will you please allow me just a little space in your paper to inform

the ex-service men and officers of the 371st regiment, World War uni, that our old commander, Colonel Perry Miles, will be in Spartanburg Monday, November 11, to speak to the men and officers of his old command. And all officers and men of this outfit are invited to attend. Colonel Miles comes to Spartanburg in honor of the dead Negro veterans who died with their white leaders while fighting on the battle fields of France. It will be more than a treat to meet with our old commander who is now Brig. Gen. Perry Miles, U. S. A., retired.

This program will be held at the Mt. Moriah Baptist church, South Liberty street, Spartanburg, beginning at 8 o'clock Monday night and men and officers in Columbia and surrounding counties are asked to come.

Any one desiring any information can see Mother Griffin at 1319 Heidt street, Columbia, or M. J. Porter in charge of program, 325 N. Dean street, Spartanburg, phone 3486W.

M. J. PORTER.

Spartanburg, S. C. Herald
November 5, 1940

City Council Approves Repairs To Prevent Weights of Clock At Courthouse From Falling

570 Voted to Replace Cables; License Is Granted for Auto Auctions

The old county court house clock, kept by the janitor for Spartanburg since 1880, was the subject of much discussion at the meeting of city council here yesterday. Council was told that weights on the timepiece have so frayed their cables that there is an immediate danger of the weights breaking loose from their moorings and crashing through the county board meeting room and the auditor's office.

Each of the two clock weights weigh several tons and should they break, R. G. Jackson, representative of a Texas firm which repairs town clocks, said, there would be little to keep them from crashing their way through the building.

Accident Forestalled

However, the possibilities of such an accident occurring were forestalled when council granted Mr. Jackson permission to replace the weight cables at a cost of \$70 and agreed to reinforce the clock tower. Mr. Jackson also wanted to replace worn parts of the clock and put it into perfect running order for \$165, but city council declined this proposition for the present, suggesting that the second proposal be renewed after the 1941 budget had been passed.

The clock was originally installed in the courthouse by the city government as a fire alarm system and is owned and maintained by the city.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE-1940 ORGANIZATIONS OF

Jackson, Tenn. Sun
May 26, 1940

COLORED WAR VETS IN MEETING TODAY

All members of the Williamson-Trice Post No. 31 of the American Legion, composed of colored world war veterans, are asked to meet this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Harden Building when plans will be made for the observance of Memorial Day. F. W. Smith is the post commander, W. A. Light the adjutant, and J. C. Cole the chairman of the memorial committee.

Henderson, Tenn., Independent
October 10, 1940

COLORED LEGION POST TO INSTALL OFFICERS HERE NEXT SUNDAY

Public installation of officers of the recently organized American Legion post of colored Chester County World War veterans, Davis-Buckingham Post, No. 194, is to be held at the Chester County Training School for colored here at 2:45 p. m. next Sunday, following receipt this past week of the post's temporary charter from Guy H. May, State Adjutant.

Edd Deloney is to be installed as Commander of the Chester County colored post and Bobby Holmes as Adjutant. F. W. Smith, Commander, of Williamson-Trice Post at Jackson, will be the installing officer. Talks are to be made by Walter Sharp of the Jackson Post and Carrie Mae Denny, supervisor of Chester County elementary colored schools.

The new post will hold its regular monthly meeting in the J. P. colored Baptist Church at Lucyville the first Friday night of each month.

Birmingham Ala. News
November 12, 1940

Americanism Is Only 'Ism' Wanted Here, Veterans Are Told

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—America need not apologize to any nation for our form of government and the only "ism" there is room for in this country is Americanism, Capt. C. Arthur Cheatham, director of veterans service for the state of Georgia, told a group of veterans of World War I, at Armistice Day services at Tuskegee Institute.

Capt. Cheatham said the American Legion has been called an organization promoting war. He declared this was not the truth and said the American Legion knows the meaning of war, its horror, sorrow and pain.

The speaker was introduced by Dr. Eugene H. Dibble, Jr., manager of the Veterans Facility here. The program was sponsored by Britton G. McKenzie Post No. 150, of the American Legion, Robert E. McDonald, commander.

The Twenty - Fourth Infantry Band, from Fort Benning, furnished the music for celebration. Guests included Com. Roland Anderson, of the Charles Fletcher Post, American Legion, and B. B. Walcott, executive secretary of the Tuskegee Institute Chapter of the American Red Cross.

**HE FELL
FACING
ENEMY**

NOV 23 1940

And So, Memphis Legion Post
Is Named After Autress
Russell, and They Marched
With Whites Nov. 11, for
First Time.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Nov. 21.
—The biggest marching contingent of colored World War Veterans that has ever taken part in an Armistice Day program

In this city, participated in the parade that featured observance of the anniversary here last Monday. Preceded by the drum and bugle corps of the Booker T. Washington and Manassas High schools, the long line of veterans was headed by members of the Autress Russell Post of the American Legion.

Perpetuating the memory of the 6,500 men from Beale street and its environs who served in the World War, the Autress Russell Post is named in honor of the first Negro soldier killed overseas in the battle of the Argonne. Recalling the significance of the official name of the post and the young soldier it honors.

Lieutenant George W. Lee, author, insurance man, and a leader of Memphis Negro veterans, said: "He had just taken part in the successful raiding of a German machine gun nest and fell facing the enemy. He was born in Memphis in the shadow of Beale street, near the swirling waters of the Mississippi river. His body rests in the bosom of the land he fought to save, but his spirit and his memory marches down Beale street each November 11, when the bands play and there is the sound of marching feet again as on that day when he marched out of the city and from among the people he loved, never to return again."

The Post was organized on Aug. 8, 1919, with Dr. John Q. Taylor, who served overseas as a captain in the Medical Corps, as its first Post Commander. For 20 years it has represented the interests of Memphis Negro World War Veterans, looking after their claims for service disabilities, compensation and hospitalization. Many of the Memphis veterans were in combat service in France with the 92nd and 93rd Divisions, made up entirely of colored troops and field officers, which took part in some of the major battles of the war.

Negro Women Jim Crowed By The Women's Auxiliary Of The American Legion

Commander of James Europe Post Told
Constitution Makes No Provision
For Such Unit

Attendant Refuses To Give Name

DEC 14 1940

Jim Crow in the state headquarters of the American Legion sprang to the fore last week when Conrad Caldwell, commander of James Europe Post 147, Oklahoma City, went to the state Historical Building and requested a

charter for a women's auxiliary. "I was told," said Caldwell when he came to the Black Dispatch office, "that the constitution of the American Legion did not provide for Negro Women Auxiliaries."

The commander of James Europe Post said that he insisted to the lady attendant who discussed the matter with him, that the wives of the Negro buddies had just as much right to organize a women's unit as white buddies. Following a point blank refusal, Mr. Caldwell came to the Black Dispatch.

"May I have a copy of the constitution of the American Legion," asked Josephine Strode, reporter for the Black Dispatch, when following the Caldwell interview, she went to the Historical Building.

"Well, we never have done that," said the lady behind the desk where Miss Strode stood. "These constitutions are only for the members, and I'm new here and I had better wait and ask someone."

Sitting down to a telephone the attendant called someone supposedly in authority, stating that "a colored woman is here to see the constitution and I think it is the outgrowth of that visit of the colored commander who was out here to see about getting a woman's charter."

"Who was the person to whom you were talking?" Miss Strode asked when the lady turned around and said she could not allow the reading of the constitution.

The attendant paused, and while she hesitated Miss Strode continued, "Well, what's your name. I'd like to be able to know from whom I am getting my information."

"Well, I'm just new here," said the attendant.

"Well, are you the secretary?" persisted Miss Strode.

"I think you had better wait and see Mrs. Beth Ball of Enid. She will be in the city Saturday," said the lady behind the desk. "I'll phone you when she arrives."

The attendant did phone Saturday morning stating that Mrs. Ball would not arrive until 5 p. m. and that she would go direct to the Biltmore. "She will not come out here at all," said the voice over the telephone. "I will get the information from Mrs. Ball as to whether you may see the constitution and advise you Monday," the attendant continued.

Miss Strode called the headquarters of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion Monday morning and was advised that Mrs. Ball ruled the constitution was for the membership only.

"Well, may I come out and read it?" asked Miss Strode.

"No," was the answer.

It will be recalled that the splinter group of the Oklahoma Youth Legislature sponsored last year by the American Legion, secured articles of incorporation providing for the exclusion of Negroes from this forum. The body is meeting this year under the name of the Oklahoma Junior Legislature.

just musin'...

by josephine strode

Negro Women Barred From Legion Auxiliary

DEC 14 1940

Although the American Legion has broken its rigid policy and permitted Negro youths to become Sons of the Legion and to participate in Boy's State, the Women's Auxiliary still refuses to charter Negro women who wish to form an auxiliary among the wives of veterans of the World War because their constitution makes no provision for them.

It seems to this columnist the height of folly when an organization which proclaims to the world its intent and purpose is perpetuation of the democratic way of life, and yet on the other hand perpetrates one of the boldest discriminations.

Sometime ago, we asked the question, whether or not this act on the part of the Women's Auxiliary is un-American? From all indications this is decidedly a procedure which does not encourage unity and cohesiveness of the two races at this most crucial point in the history of our nation.

I would like to remind the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion that the wives of the loyal colored veterans of the state are asking themselves why must they be excluded from the organization because of a lilywhite policy practiced by the group? Did not both black and white do their small bit to preserve democracy?

It is for the good of America that citizens settle their small differences and forget the great myth of color discriminations here so that all may enjoy a democratic way of life. Let us unite our efforts to that one goal.

Negroes to Be Admitted To Army and Navy Union

DEC 23 1940

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (ANP)—The "Army and Navy Union," with headquarters at 1845 Broadway, for the first time in its half century of existence, is making a campaign to enroll Negroes in its membership. The Army and Navy union was organized in 1888 and is now composed of veterans of foreign and domestic wars, ex-servicemen, and peace time service men now in the armed forces of the U. S.

service men now in the armed forces of the U. S. Its primary interests are concerned with protecting service men's status on civil service lists and providing welfare for the sick and needy.

ADMIT NEGROES TO ARMY-NAVY UNION

NEW YORK CITY (ANP)—The "Army and Navy Union," with headquarters at 1845 Broadway for the first time in its half century of existence, are making a campaign to enroll Negroes in its membership. The Army and Navy union was organized in 1888, and is now composed of veterans of foreign and domestic wars, ex-service men, and peace time

24th Has Fine Record At Fort

By J. D. McGHEE SEP 13 1940

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(SNS)—Out on a 92,000-acre reservation at Fort Benning, Georgia, where a whole division (more than 10,000) of American soldiers are trained in the art of modern warfare and housed in the best appointed and equipped quarters of any of Uncle Sam's forts or bases, there has been more than a thousand one tenth of a division, a regiment of Negro soldiers going through the same routine and living in equally well appointed quarters for more than a quarter of a century.

The one thousand or more Negroes in the stands with other soldiers now on this reservation are members of the 24th Infantry Regiment. This regiment has been quartered here since the last World's War and in recent months has taken on a new hue, having become a part of the great training program for the present war situation. New faces, young men, are arriving daily to be made soldiers.

VETERANS HANDLE TRAINING

The job of making these new soldiers has been placed in the hands of veteran non-commissioned officers who are commanded by Colonel J. M. Lockett, a great lover of all sports, particularly baseball, and a great lover of all young people and their activities.

Colonel J. M. Lockett's able assistant and admirer is Regimental Sgt. Major Louis A. Scipio, who enlisted in the army at Washington Barracks in 1915. Both of these genial personages are well liked by every member in the present outfit. Both have headed up the work of the regiment less than a year but in that short period have made many progressive changes for the comfort and enjoyment of the men.

Lt. Col. McClure who is executive officer of the regiment, has actively shown interest in every activity of his men and mingles with them as a soldier and not as one separate and a part from them, he is a

OFFICERS INTERESTED

In tennis at the recent 12th Annual 24th Infantry, Open Tournament held August 30-September 2.

24th Has Fine

(Continued from Page 1)

Col. McClure along with Regimental Sgt. Major Louis A. Scipio and other staff members, showed an active interest in the games played and at the presentation of trophies, requested participants to come back and go forth as messengers in other parts inviting larger participation in next year's tournament which they said would top all previous events, should army orders permit them to remain at Fort Benning in their present position.

It is uniquely interesting to note the morale of the soldiers of the 24th Infantry who praise to the highest their present Regimental Sgt. Major. In every way these soldiers stand out. In competitive drills or sharp shooting they hold the high honors. At a review staged during the Tennis Tournament honoring the retirement of the Major General of the division, the Negro Soldier led the parade with abandon, trained by Bandmaster Tresville, father of Cadet Tresville

WILL THE NEW DEAL CONTINUE THIS?

IN ITS ISSUE of August 16, "The Chicago Tribune," largest daily newspaper in the Mid-west, continued its attack on the New Deal for its policy of discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces of the nation. An editorial in that issue stated:

NEGROES IN THE ARMY

When the United States army consisted of 35 regiments of combat troops four of those regiments were composed of colored troops. Today, with the number of line regiments more than tripled there are still only four colored regiments, two of infantry and two of cavalry.

The Negro regiments have had honorable combat records in all the wars in which they have fought. Because of limited economic opportunities in civilian life they never have trouble recruiting to full strength. Most of their members are veterans of several enlistments.

Yet in spite of their record Negroes are subjected to almost as great discrimination in the army as they are in the navy, which accepts them only as cooks and waiters. The 10th Cavalry is an example. Its fighting record is perhaps the best known of any colored organization, dating back to the Indian wars. Today, and for some years past, the bulk of the regiment has been split between West Point and Fort Leavenworth. Its members are employed chiefly as grooms and horseholders for officers and cadets.

The proportion of colored regiments in the army should be restored to the old ratio of about one in nine, which would mean about a dozen regiments in place of the present four. The army's prejudice against colored troops is only one of its numerous stupidities that should be abandoned in the interest of sound national defense.

NEGROES IN THE ARMY.

When the United States army consisted of 35 regiments of combat troops, four of those regiments were composed of colored troops. Today, with the number of line regiments more than tripled, there are still only four colored regiments, two of infantry and two of cavalry.

The Negro regiments have had honorable combat records in all the wars in which they have fought. Because of limited economic opportunities in civilian life they never have trouble recruiting to full strength. Most of their members are veterans of several enlistments.

Yet in spite of their record Negroes are subjected to almost as great discrimination in the army as they are in the navy, which accepts them only as cooks and waiters. The 10th Cavalry is an example. Its fighting record is perhaps the best known of any colored organization, dating back to the Indian wars. Today, and for some years past, the bulk of the regiment has been split between West Point and Fort Leavenworth. Its members are employed chiefly as grooms and horseholders for officers and cadets.

The proportion of colored regiments in the army should be restored to the old ratio of about one in nine, which would mean about a dozen regiments in place of the present four. The army's prejudice against colored troops is only one of its numerous stupidities that should be abandoned in the interest of sound national defense.

Call White Units First

OCT 26 1940

WASHINGTON
Colored units of the National Guard are expected to be the last increment inducted into the Federal service.

The first section of the guard became a Federal unit on September 16 and the second on October 15. These two total 98,000 men.

When Others Will Go

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson in a statement on army housing prepared by the President, and released October 17, disclosed that other increments will be ordered into Federal service as follows:

The third and fourth groups between November 18 and 25. They aggregate over 34,000 men.

Colored Group January 3

The fifth and final group (4,000 men), January 3 to 19. This is the colored group and it is last.

The allotted strength of the three colored regiments of the National Guard total 188 commissioned officers, 2 warrant officers, and 3,134 enlisted men. Any shortage will be made up by trainees inducted into the military service under the selective service law.

Drafted Men

Present plans call for the induction into the military service between now and the end of the fiscal year under the selective law of 800,000 men. Of that number approximately 77,600 or 9.7 percent will be colored. The dates on which the inductions will take place are as follows:

November 18, 30,000 men, of whom approximately 2,980 are expected to be colored.

December 2, 60,000 men, of whom 5,960 are expected to be colored.

January 3, 60,000 men, of whom approximately 5,960 are expected to be colored.

8,940 on January 15

January 15, 90,000 men, of whom approximately 8,940 are expected to be colored.

February 19, 160,000 men, of whom approximately 15,520 are

expected to be colored.

March 5, 200,000 men, of whom approximately 19,400 are expected to be colored.

June 15, an additional 200,000 men, of whom approximately 19,400 are expected to be colored.

Two Types of Shelter

Shelter for all units requiring it will be provided in the form of cantonment construction where the climate makes such a form of shelter necessary. Elsewhere tent camps are to be established.

These will include cantonment type hospitals, mess halls, kitchens, assembly rooms, and so forth. The War Department believes this plan will be satisfactory as well as much more economical than if cantonment type constructions were provided throughout.

Specific provision will also be made for the welfare of the men. Provision is made for the initial issue of athletic equipment and reading material and for the establishment of service clubs and motion-picture theatres. Hostesses and librarians will be provided for in the division camps. Many of these activities, once started, are expected to become self-supporting.

BLUEFIELD PREXY ON COUNTY DRAFT BOARD

BLUEFIELD, W.Va. — President H. L. Dickason of Bluefield State College has been appointed to the draft board for Mercer County. The appointment came from President Roosevelt upon recommendation of Governor Holt.

369th's New White Army Instructor Long In Service

NOV 9 1940

The appointment of Lt. Colonel Robert D. Brown, regular army instructor, to the 369th Coast Artillery (AA) by Colonel B. O. Davis at August is already beginning to show favorable results. It was indicated this week.

Lieutenant Colonel Brown comes to the regiment with a record of experience that dates back to 1908 when he first entered the Federal service as a Midshipman in the United States Navy. A series of promotions saw him a Lt. Colonel in the United States Army in 1935, having served in the previous capacity of both Captain and Major.

At the time assigned as U. S. Military Attache in Belgium, Luxembourg, Holland and Switzerland, Colonel Brown speaks five languages fluently. He is a graduate of the General Staff School, Army War College and Ecole Superieure de guerre, French General Staff School at Paris. He resides at the Kings Crown Hotel on 116th Street.

Through his work in the capacity of an advisor, members of the 369th have been given the highest type of training in modern war tactics and the use of modern equipment.

FIRST NEGRO UNIT IN ARTILLERY TEST

NOV 28 1940

FORT SILL, Okla.—(ANP) — Great skill was shown in the use of 75-millimeter guns in the practice firing on Fort Sill ranges by the members of the 349th field artillery unit first colored field artillery regiment. This unit is composed of members of the national guard taken from troop recruits in Oklahoma, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Arkansas. Marching jauntily the men acquitted themselves in a manner that belied the fact that they are an outfit only three months old, said observers. They took part in artillery practice held during a special war department tour of defense installations witnessed by 17 newspaper men.

The Fort Sill post is on a 51,300-acre reservation which is the home of the army's field artillery school and now headquarters for the recently mobilized 45th division, national guard.

Although the army has had Negro infantry and cavalry regiments, the 349th, which was reactivated on Aug. 15, is the first peace-time Negro field artillery regiment. Its officers are white, but it has a cadre of trained non-commissioned officers, Serg. Hansen Outley, sloned officers, drawn chiefly from the army's regular Negro cavalry regiments.

Atlanta, Ga. — One of these officers, Serg. Hansen Outley fired on Nov. 11, 1918 the regiment's last shot during the first world war. He acted for a time as chief of staff of the Liberian army, learned to fly in Germany and has had 1,500 hrs. of flying time. In a few months when trainees are inducted in quantity the newly formed regiment will be split into four parts. Three of them will leave for other posts to form cadres for three more regiments of Negro field artillery.

Jersey Nat'l Guard Is Now Motorized Unit

OCT 2 1940



Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.



The Trenton unit of the New Jersey National Guard pictured in bottom photo at their Sea Girt barracks has recently been designated as a Motorized Heavy Weapons company, its main weapons being .30 and .50 calibre Browning machine guns and trench mortars, which are to be transported on fast motorcycles and trucks. Officers of Company D pictured at top are l to r First Lieutenant John F. Ramos, Captain Berkley A. Mills, and Second Lieutenant Theodore Graves.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE - 1940 REGIMENTS IN REGULAR ARMY ETC.

Colored Workers Find Welcome At Local Re-Training Centers

A VISIT to the several local public schools where Philadelphians are being re-trained to make them more effective in the national defense program provided a pleasant surprise.

Colored people are being trained at each of these centers and are being admitted to every type of activity which the training centers offer.

There is a two-fold reason for gratification: First, colored men and women are alert and alive to the opportunities being offered to make themselves more efficient workers; and, secondly, the Board of Education authorities are setting an example of fairplay worthy of emulation in other circles.

It is planned to establish six additional centers for re-training, and THE TRIBUNE hopes that hundreds of other colored Philadelphians will avail themselves of the opportunity being offered to secure training in the latest methods of operating the varied types of mechanical devices which are being used nowadays.

Elsewhere on this page Dr. Gordon B. Hancock, member of the faculty of Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va., has written an interesting article, which is unusually appropriate in connection with this matter and which is well worth your reading.

INCREASES IN THE ARMY STRENGTH

The enlisted strength of the U.S. Army has increased 13 per cent since last September.

At that time there were 167,000 enlisted men. At present the enlisted strength is around 239,000. By September recruiting officers hope to bring the total to 375,000, or 125 per cent more than the enlisted strength last September. This increase has been almost wholly white.

Along with this announcement comes word from Gen. George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, that sixteen Army divisions will be mechanized by January 1; that when the inevitable compulsory military service law is passed by Congress there will be forty-five mechanized divisions, plus ten armored or tank divisions, and the total Army strength will be 1,200,000 men.

For this huge military force the taxpayers will have to go deep into their pockets, and one out of every ten of those taxpayers is a Negro.

Since colored people are helping to pay for this military machine, we think they ought in justice to be getting something out of it in training, pay and healthful surroundings.

If military training is so valuable, we want our youngsters to have it, too; and if there is so much to be learned in the various special services which will be valuable in civil life, we want our young men to have that knowledge and experience.

There is no general opposition to Negroes receiving their share of these jobs and this training and experience, except on the part of a little Negrophobic clique in Washington and high army circles.

If we keep up a consistent, persistent and intelligent fight for a square deal in national defense, some of those mechanized divisions will be manned by our boys before snow flies.

Let's do it!

Newport News, Va. Press
October 13, 1940

Give Promotions To Negro Troops

For several weeks a group of Negro enlisted men, Co. A of the 31st Quartermaster regiment (truck), has been in the process of becoming an actively functioning unit of the regular army at Langley Field.

Training has now progressed to the point where it has been found necessary to appoint non-commissioned officers from among the Negro troopers. Those recently appointed include:

Private First Class Clagget S. Young and Private Joe E. Couch, a World war veteran, to the grade of sergeant and Privates First Class Richard Fuller and Levia Happs-zollern and Privates Robert Esters, William D. Green, James B. Fletcher, Ross F. Nicholas, Will Smith, another World war veteran, and Joseph Ryles to the rank of corporal.

The Negro In National Defense

By MAJOR C. U. TURPIN

For the past year this nation has been engaged in a vast national peace time defense program. Billions of dollars have been appropriated by Congress and the production of war material has gone ahead at full speed, and on tomorrow a nation-wide selective draft machine will be set in operation to mobilize the man power of this nation so that by January 1st it is contemplated that 400,000 men will be in the army learning the rudiments of war.

In planning for national defense a question which, no doubt, has been very troublesome to Official Washington is—"How must we handle the Negro in the national defense program?"

onal defense program?"

In trying to answer this question the advice of many "so-called Negro leaders" has been offered and apparently relied upon. As a result, Negroes have been granted in this defense program perfect discrimination and segregation.

This policy of segregation which has been recently announced is as follows:

1.—The strength of the Negro personnel of the army will be maintained on the basis of proportion of the Negro population to the country.

2.—Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant.

3.—Negro reserve officers eligible for active duty will be assigned to Negro units officered by Negro personnel.

4.—When officer candidate schools are established, opportunity will be given to Negroes to qualify for reserve commissions. Training as pilots, mechanics

5.—Negroes are being given aviation and technical specialists. This training will be accelerated. Negro aviation units will be formed as soon as the necessary personnel has been trained.

6.—At arsenals and army posts Negro civilians are accorded equal opportunity for employment at work for which they are qualified by ability, education and experience.

7.—The policy of the war department is not to intermingle colored and white enlisted personnel in the same regimental organizations. This policy has been proved satisfactory over a long period of years, and to make changes would produce situations destructive to morale and detrimental to the preparations for national defense.

It is to be noted that this program omits the Navy and Marine Corps. In the former Negroes may enlist as mess attendants

only and in the latter—well, there is no such thing as a black marine.

On the surface this plan appears as a gain in racial progress, but underneath the sugar-coating the bitterness is found. It places the Negro race on record for the first time in history as sanctioning and requesting discrimination from the national government. It is true that the race will gain a few jobs, some needed schooling in the art of warfare and a few high honors for individuals, but at the tremendous cost of race principles that have been constitutionally sought for over fifty years.

In fairness to our President, it has been learned from authoritative sources that he was unalterably opposed to any form of segregation in the armed forces. He has always thought that the war department was perfectly capable of coping with this problem, but with race leaders demanding separate organizations for Negroes, the segregation plan, as indicated above, has been the result.

It is our belief that national defense means an unquestionable integration of black and white citizens in all the phases of governmental activities which are being geared up for advancing and promoting the security of the state. In this critical hour, when disaffection on the part of any citizen may spell ultimate disaster to the nation, it is imperative that the moral resources and spiritual energies of the masses should be galvanized into one precious unity.

Segregation, discrimination, by-partisanship in the Army, Navy, National industries and local administrations of federal agencies are positive hindrances to cohesion and eventual national unity, and I believe that all within the sound of my voice will concur in this statement.

If this is the case, then why at this hour of national emergency has a plan of segregation and discrimination in the armed forces of our land been offered America's most loyal group of citizens?

What is the war record of the Negro? Has he been disloyal to this country? Let us glance briefly at that record. Whenever the nation has called we have responded without reservation.

To the call of George Washington Negro slaves answered and gave up their lives at Bunker Hill and Brandywine that the newly formed government of the colonies might live.

To the call of Madison Negroes, still slaves, sailed with Pierre on Lake Erie and followed Jackson to New Orleans where their courage under fire in building cotton-bale ramparts won for them a citation.

To the call of Abraham Lincoln 200,000 Negro freedmen answered and on the grassy slopes of Forts Wagner and Pillow at Murfreesboro and in a score of other battles hundreds made the supreme sacrifice for the preservation of the Union.

To the call of William McKinley Negroes followed Theodore Roosevelt to Porto Rico and rescued the Rough Riders on the hill of San Juan.

To the call of Woodrow Wilson more than 300,000 Negroes answered, and tonight, as the German war machines rolls down the Valley of Meuse, the spirits of Negro American boys who sleep eternally on a foreign field arise in ghostly defiance.

Yes, we must reach the inescapable conclusion that we of African descent who compose the 13,000,000 Negroes of this country yield to none in our loyalty to America and the ideal for which it stands. We were here before the nation was born and by our labor and blood we helped in its establishment. We are Americans. We have faith in America and in Democracy. We believe our history justifies faith in us. There are no fifth columnists among Negroes. We have never been guilty of sabotage or disloyalty. Treason has never raised its head among the Negroes of this nation.

Has the Negro the physical and mental qualifications for any and all branches of the military and naval service? Yes, definitely so. Negroes have proof that they possess or can easily acquire the requisite skill demanded. In the highest branch of our service, namely, aviation, let us see what

one of our leading daily papers has to say. We quote from the Chicago Tribune of August 8th.

"At a recent hearing of the house appropriations committee, Representative Ludlow of Indiana called attention to a recent act of Congress requiring that facilities be made available for the training of Negro airplane pilots for the Army. Asked by Mr. Ludlow what had been done to carry out this mandate, General Marshall,

chief of staff, replied that there is no such thing as colored aviation at this time." He suggested that the start should be made by the Civil Aeronautics authority.

"It is to be hoped that Mr. Ludlow will see to it that the intention of Congress is not defeated by bureaucratic buckpassing. This is said not only in protest against discrimination, but also in recognition of the very large contribution to national defense which may be expected of Negro pilots.

"The first requisite of a military flyer is quick nervous responses. He should have a superior sense of balance, excellent muscular coordination, a good sensory apparatus, a sound body. In short, the qualities which make a good athlete are required of a flyer. Of course he should have physical and moral courage as well. In all of these qualifications Negroes have given ample demonstration of their fitness. A race which has produced, in the span of a few years, Joe Louis, Henry Armstrong, Jesse Owens, Jeffer-

son of Northwestern, Ozzie Simmons of Iowa, a substantial number of Golden Glove champions, and a score of other absolutely

top-notch athletes, provides a rich resource which ought not to be lost to the country through prejudice. In the face of this roster of world champions, the physical fitness and courage of their race cannot be questioned by any reasonable man.

"The record suggests that the country would lose less by refusing to train Harvard, Yale, and Princeton men for the flying corps than by refusing to train Negroes."

We hope that America can keep cut of the war that threatens now to engulf all Europe. We hope that by some magic or miracle of statesmanship made sensitive to the will of the people that we shall not be drawn into this conflict, the vague aims of which no one seems to know but the end of which is apparent to all. For no matter which side may win, Europe, in fact the world, must suffer losses which it can never recoup.

But if reason fails and the madness which has convulsed Europe at last possesses America, then

we hope that America will permit her Negro citizens to bear their burdens and assume their responsibilities without the humiliation and insult which was their lot, particularly in the armed forces of the nation, during the last World War. The treatment accorded the Negro soldier in France, and to a lesser extent in America, constitutes a shameful

chapter in American history. It is without parallel in the military annals of any country in the world. For thousands of Negro citizens who were called as soldiers to defend Democracy were subjected to cheap insult, deliberate and cruel discrimination, almost within sight of the trenches of the enemy. That the Negro under these conditions never faltered in his allegiance is further evidence of his fundamental loyalty to American ideals and institutions.

In conclusion, may I state that we Negroes ask no special favor. We seek no special consideration. But, this we do ask and we do demand, that America be fair with us. Fair in treatment in the Army and Navy, fair in treatment in the industrial plants as they begin to recruit workers to carry out the national program for defense. The Negro is entitled to the same treatment to which every American citizen is entitled and that is equal opportunity to serve his country in the best way he can.

This is all that the Negro expects. Less than this a great democracy in a crucial period in its history has no right to offer.

U.S. Orders 8 New Units

3 National Guard Regiments also to Reach Full War Strength

WASHINGTON.

Creation of several new colored combat units for the army, as well as increasing the existing combat and service organizations to full war-time strength, will result from recent enactment of the Selective Service Act, according to a recent War Department announcement.

In conformity with their approximate percentage of the total population, colored Americans will provide about 9 per cent, or 36,000, of the 400,000 conscripts who will begin a year of military training in November, the statement revealed.

More Due Later
Presumably the same ratio will apply to subsequent calls to service provided for in the measure. Old regular army units to be augmented from the draft rolls were listed as follows:

- Twenty-fourth Infantry, Fort Benning, Ga.
- Twenty-fifth Infantry, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
- Tenth Cavalry, Fort Leavenworth, Kas.
- Ninth Cavalry, Fort Riley, Kas.
- Tenth Cavalry, Fort Myer, Va.
- Tenth Cavalry, West Point, N.Y.
- School Detachment, Fort Sill, Okla.
- School Detachment, Army War College, D.C.
- School Detachment, Fort Belvoir, Va.
- Forty-eighth Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C.
- Forty-eighth Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga.
- Forty-eighth Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Knox, Ky.
- Forty-eighth Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Sheridan, Ill.
- Forty-seventh Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.
- Forty-seventh Quartermaster

"The Civil Aeronautics Authority, in co-operation with the army, is making a start in the development of colored personnel for the aviation service. Pilots, mechanics, and other specialists must first be trained as a nucleus for the formation of colored aviation units."

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 REGIMENTS REGULAR ARMY.....

CHICAGO NEGRO REGIMENT TO BE ARTILLERY UNIT

106th Cavalry to Become Reconnaissance Group.

Chicago Daily Tribune
August 31, 1940
BY HAROLD HUTCHINGS.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Camp McCoy, Wis., Aug. 30.—Major changes in two units of the Illinois National Guard will be made soon, it was reported here today as the 60,000 troops of the 2d army moved homeward after nearly three weeks of maneuvers under command of Lieut. Gen. Stanley H. Ford.

It was asserted on excellent authority that in all probability the 8th Illinois infantry [colored] of Chicago would be converted to a field artillery regiment of 155 mm. howitzers, and that it probably will be trained at Fort Sill, Okla.

The other change is that of the 106th cavalry regiment, now of Illinois and Michigan. Under present plans, scheduled to become effective Sept. 1, this regiment will become an all-Illinois "corps reconnaissance regiment" of both mechanized and horse units. It now has only horse units.

Pleased by Proposal.

Col. William J. Warfield, commander of the 8th infantry; the adjutant general of Illinois, the commander of the 33d division, the National Guard bureau, and the war department all are reported to approve the change of the 8th infantry to field artillery. Plans have been made to assist the officers of the regiment with artillery classes at once in the unit's armory in Chicago.

Col. Kenneth Buchanan of Urbana, Ill., will continue as commander of the revamped 106th cavalry, which, like the revamped 8th, is now and will be a unit of corps troops. Lieut. Col. Mark Plaisted of Springfield, now commander of the 23d reconnaissance squadron of that city, will be second in command. The 23d will be incorporated as part of the

new 106th. *Chicago Daily Tribune*
Organization of Regiment.

The new reconnaissance regiment will be organized as follows:

Headquarters troop: This will consist of 12 scout cars, five of which will form an antitank platoon. This unit also will include communications, pioneer, and demolition sections, which will be new. All of these sections will be in Urbana and the troop will be commanded by Capt. Max Flewelling of Urbana.

Service troop: This will be organized from what is now the machine gun troop, which will be abolished. It will contain 4 officers and 112 enlisted men, with Capt. J. F. Homfeld, now machine gun troop commander, as the commanding officer of the service troop. It will be an Urbana unit and will have 3 scout cars, 23 motorcycles, 5 command and reconnaissance cars, 26 trucks of 2½ tons, 55 trailer trucks for hauling the horses of the regiment. Units so equipped are called "porte cavalry units." *August 31, 1940*

Medical detachment: Capt. H. P. MacNamara of Springfield will be promoted to major to command this detachment upon the retirement of Maj. C. D. Gulick on Nov. 30. The personnel of the unit is to be split among Springfield, Urbana, and Chicago, there being 1 officer and 12 enlisted men in each city. The unit will have 2 ambulances, 2 motorcycles, 4 trucks of 2½ tons, and 3 trailer trucks. *Chicago Daily Tribune*
Band Will Be Augmented.

Band: To continue as a Chicago unit, but to be increased from 32 to 42 members under Warrant Officer Thomas J. Madden.

Horse squadron [porte]: This will include troops A and B of Chicago [the present Black Horse troops E and F] and will include also a new Chicago troop C. There will be 180 horses in the squadron, to be commanded by Roy D. Keehn Jr., present squadron commander, who will be promoted from captain to major.

Mechanized squadron: This will be a Springfield unit of three troops. Two of them, E and F, will be reconnaissance units and will incorporate the present 23d reconnaissance squadron of Springfield. The two troops together will have 39 scout cars. Each troop will include six officers and 80 men. Capt. M. S. Peter will command troop E and Capt. C. R. Bean will command troop F. The third troop, G, will be a motorcycle unit of 6 officers and 89 men, and will have 59 motorcycles. *August 31, 1940*

The 106th will be the first National Guard regiment to be so organized.

It is planned to put it on a peace strength basis, with a total of 1,160 officers and men. The current strength is 612 officers and men.

Division Is Complimented.

The 33d division was commended on yesterday's review in a letter sent today to the division commander by Col. Ralph Talbot Jr., chief of staff of the 6th corps. Col. Talbot attended the review as official representative of Lieut. Gen. Stanley H. Ford, commander of the second army.

"In view of the fact that the division had just returned from an arduous week in the field under unusually unfavorable conditions of weather, the cleanliness of personal equipment, material, and transportation was outstanding," the letter said.

"The mechanics of execution indicated a high efficiency in staff planning. The appearance and bearing of all ranks was indicative of a high degree of morale and esprit de corps."

WAR DEPARTMENT CHANGES RULING ON NEGRO TROOPS

Globe
Will Not Use "Colored" To Single Out Soldiers Of 369th Infantry of New York
8-9-40

NEW YORK.—War Department regulations "have been amended so that the term 'colored' will not be used as an inseparable part of a colored unit's designation," according to information given the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by the War Department and made public by the Association here today.

The information was contained in a letter sent to the Association, July 27 by Major General Emory S. Adams in response to N. A. A. C. P. protests launched with President Roosevelt, former Secretary of War Harry Woodring, and Governor Herbert Lehman of New York.

The information referred specifically to the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard and the 8th Infantry, Illinois National Guard. The N. A. A. C. P. had protested to President Roosevelt against the

War Department's new regulation designating these army units as "colored," in a letter sent to the Chief Executive June 13. A similar protest was sent to the then Secretary of War, Harry Woodring.

Major General Adams denied a report that these army units would be discontinued as combat units and placed in the category of labor battalions. He said the 369th will be changed to the 369th Coast Artillery in charge of anti-aircraft work, and the 8th Illinois Infantry converted into a 155mm gun regiment, both combat units.

The statement denying the labor battalion report, confirmed a telegram sent to the N. A. A. C. P. June 10 by Governor Herbert H. Lehman of New York, in which he also denied the report, pointing out that he himself had asked that the two units be designated as anti-aircraft units because of his high regard for these regiments.

CHICAGO'S NEGRO REGIMENT TESTS BLITZ WARFARE

Planes Join Maneuver to Make It Realistic.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Camp McCoy, Wis., Aug. 16.—The first problem of the 2d army maneuvers to simulate blitzkrieg methods of attack was carried out this morning by the 8th infantry, Colored Illinois National Guard regiment from Chicago, to the accompaniment of three simulated dive bombers and six trucks each labeled with a "Z" for "Zerkow."

The blitzkrieg, which tested the National Guard's lack of equipment, was the climax of a battalion vs. battalion maneuver beginning at 1:30 a. m. It was 2 a. m. with the defending battalion in position on the high ground south of Camp McCoy headquarters, when the attackers' three "dive bombers" roared in from the west and swept low over the position in a simulated machine gun and bombing raid.

Not Too Realistic.

Because most of the camp still was asleep the pilots did not open the throttles of their craft to the full and did not roar down as real dive bombers might have done. They swept in low, however, and then zoomed away to the east, only to return to another attack. In all, six such attacks were made while the offensive battalion kept to the concealed positions it had gained in hours of night maneuvering.

Then the planes—which were pursuit ships of the 15th observation squadron based at Camp McCoy—returned to their field. The army is reported to have no light bombardment planes, the American version of the dive bomber which has been so effective in Europe, altho experimental bombers are said to be under test.

When the planes retired the "tanks" appeared, roaring down the road in the same direction the attackers were moving. Originally it had been planned to bring the 7th mechanized cavalry brigade to Camp McCoy to perform just such missions as trucks were called on to do this morning. Formation of the new armored corps, however, prevented sending the mechanized unit here, and the 2d army area's officers and men have been faced with the problem of finding substitutes for blitzkrieg weapons.

Other hour or so, with the attackers ordered to retreat so the defenders also could have some experience in the offensive. This kind of controlled maneuver, it was explained, is intended entirely for training, and it is not meant that either side shall

Governors Visit Troops.

Wisconsin's governor, Julius Heil, was on hand to greet Gov. John W. Bricker when the Ohio executive landed at Camp Williams in a National Guard airplane today to visit Ohio troops.

Gov. Heil *AUG 17 1940* at Camp Williams, 5th Army corps headquarters, last night and this morning inspected troops of the 32d division, Wisconsin and Michigan National Guard, stationed at Camp McCoy.

The governors were invited to be the luncheon guests of Brig. Gen. Campbell B. Hodges, commander of the 5th army corps.

MADE INTO ANTI-AIRCRAFT REGIMENT SINCE AUGUST 1; MAY GO INTO REGULAR ARMY

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—

The adjutant general's office this week made known the fact that Harlem's 369th regiment had been converted into the 369th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft Regiment, N. Y. N. G., since August 1.

This surprise move, the part of headquarters is believed by some to mean that the regiment will soon be part of the regular army. It is substantiated by the fact that two regular army officers have been detailed to duty with the regiment. They are Lieut. Col. Robert D. Brown, who has returned from Brussels as an observer of Nazi blitzkrieg tactics; and Major Archibald D. Fisher, Coast Artillery corps, recent artillery military instructor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Both men were assigned to the regiment after Col. B. O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the regular army and commander of the 369th, had assured army officials that the regiment was qualified to become an anti-aircraft unit.

The 369th is scheduled to leave the city on August 25 for field training at Peekskill, N. Y., and will have a full staff of officers and enlisted men for the three weeks encampment.

Officers and men who were contacted were divided in their opinion whether they wanted to be part of the regular army or not. But few of them have resigned since the order permitting them to do so has been received.

*Colored D.C. Guard
Washington Post
To Get Call Soon,*

White House Says

SEP 18 1940

Company A, 372d Infantry, the District's colored National Guard unit, together with its medical detachment, will be called into Federal service "soon," a White House announcement said Monday. The company is commanded by Capt. Sylvester F. Blackwell and recently completed three weeks of training at Camp Ritchie, Md.

The announcement pointed out that colored citizens constitute 9 per cent of the Nation's population and will be given military training in that proportion. Of the first 400,000 men to be called, it said, 36,000 will be colored. In addition, the announcement added, "the Civil Aeronautics Board, in cooperation with the Army, is making a start in the development of colored personnel for the aviation service. Pilots, mechanics and other specialists must first be trained as a nucleus for the formation of colored aviation units."

369th Regi Made Anti-Aircraft Unit

The 369th Infantry, Harlem's own regiment received its official conversion orders on August 1st, last, from the Adjutant general in Albany. From now on the regimeter will be known as the 369th Coast Artillery, (A.A.) Anti-Aircraft N.Y.N.G. This same regiment during the outbreak of the first World War was known as the old "Fighting Fifteenth" (rifle) N.Y.G.

The conversion of the regiment into an anti-aircraft unit constitutes an advanced step or Negroes in army affairs. It represents a departure from the usual belief that Negro soldiers lacked sufficient education and technical knowledge to take over such a highly specialized field of military warfare. The anti-aircraft division of the U. S. Army next to Aviation and Engineering branches is one of the most expensive departments in our military setup.

Colonel B. O. Davis, commanding officer of the 369th whose efforts such a promotion of the regiment was made possible feels that his men are fully capable of handling the new equipment and have the sufficient educational background to enable them to maintain the highly efficient degree for which the regiment is known.

The Colonel will have as his assistants such army experts as Lieutenant Colonel Robert D. Brown, Coast Artillery Corps, U.S.A., recently from Brussels and Major Archibald D. Fisher, Coast Artillery and recent instructor of R.O.T.C. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Cambridge. The regiment will attend field training at Camp Smith from August 25th to September at Peekskill during which time they will handle the new anti-aircraft equipment.

Guards' Race Bar May Bring Suit

PHILADELPHIA.

Governor James must discard his "I pass" attitude on accepting colored volunteers in the Pennsylvania National Guard, or massed race organizations will file a taxpayers' suit to enforce action, it was learned from reputable sources this week.

Although no law exists against enlistment of colored guardsmen, it has been proved by planted test cases that they are barred in actual practice, Dr. DeHaven Hinkson of the American Legion pointed out.

After American
Aug 11 U. S. Blames State

The War Department places responsibility for the situation completely on Pennsylvania.

The movement is reported strongly supported by Republican leaders who are attempting to prevent the situation from developing into a campaign issue.

NEGRO YOUTHS VOLUNTEER FOR ARMY SERVICE

*To Be Trained For Field
Artillery At Fort Sill, Okla.
homa.*

Negroes of the United States are again demonstrating loyalty to their country by answering the call of their government for volunteers in the army and in every service where they are permitted to enlist.

Milam and McGowan streets claimed the attention of hundreds of spectators this week when more than 400 race youths from all parts of the state enlisted at the Houston Recruiting Office for service in the U. S. Army.

Enlistments have been taken for the last ten days. The youths will be trained for field artillery at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 REGIMENTS IN REGULAR ARMY

Columbus, Ga. Ledger
September 17, 1940

Negro Garrison To Be Enlarged

24th Infantry to Take War Strength As Result of Draft

The Twenty-fourth Infantry, colored unit stationed at Fort Benning, will soon take its war strength, which will mean a great increase in the personnel, it was learned from the Associated Press yesterday. This expansion is a part of the peace time draft bill signed by the president.

Recruits will be added to the regiment as a result of the conscription bill signed by the president yesterday. The first 36,000 men drafted for service in the army will be negroes, it has been announced.

The present strength of the 24th Infantry is 34 officers and 969 enlisted men. One of its battalions is inactive.

A war strength regiment of infantry has had an aggregate strength of 2,660 men. Effective October 1, 1940, the strength of the infantry regiments in triangular (streamlined) divisions becomes 2,970.

From its organization in 1869 until 1897 the 24th Infantry participated in skirmishes with Indians and bandits along the Mexican border. During the Spanish American war, on July 1, 1898, it assisted in the capture of San Juan Hill, Cuba.

From July 15, 1898, the Regiment was assigned the duty of nursing the sick at the yellow fever camp at Siboney, where it remained until August 26, when it sailed for the state.

On July 23, 1899, the First Battalion of the regiment arrived in Manila to assist in quelling uprisings among the natives especially the Moros. The remaining battalions arrived a few weeks later and participated in many skirmishes that occurred throughout the island until 1902. The regiment participated in the Pershing Punitive Expedition into Mexico in 1916. On June 16, 1919 it drove the Villista forces out of Juarez, Mexico.

It came to Fort Benning for station from New Mexico 18 years ago.

The 24th Infantry is commanded by Colonel James M. Lockett. Staff and battalion commanders are: Lieut. Colonel Walter R. McClure, executive officer; Lieut. Colonel Hiram G. Fry, plans and training officer; Lieut. Colonel Alfred S. Knight, regimental supply officer; Major Clyde G. Banks, adjutant; First Lieutenant Louis J. Beasley, chaplain; Major Harry L. Lewis, commanding officer, First Battalion; and Major Samuel F. Cohn, commanding officer, Second battalion.

36,000 DRAFTED

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17—(AP)—The White House announced yesterday that 36,000 of the first 400,000 men drafted for military service would be negroes.

A statement issued by Stephen Early, press secretary, said also that the civil aeronautics authority, in cooperation with the army, was making "a start in the development of colored personnel for the aviation service."

Negro regular army organizations which the statement said would be expanded to full war strength include:

24th Infantry, Fort Benning, Ga.; 48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Bragg, N. C., Fort Benning, Ga., Fort Knox, Ky., and Fort Sheridan, Ill.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
September 25, 1940

Negro Troops Spend Night on Way to Tampa

More than 100 negro recruits attached to the Forty-First Engineer Regiment and the Forty-Eighth Quartermaster Regiment at Fort Bragg, N. C., camped on the parade grounds at the Duval County Armory last night preparatory to departing this morning for MacDill Field Tampa, where they have been assigned to the Thirty-First Quartermaster Regiment.

The recruits under command of First Lieut. D. H. Smith of the Forty-First Engineers at Fort Bragg. Lieutenant Smith will return to Fort Bragg after leaving the negro outfit at MacDill Field, he said.

The recruits are traveling in large Army transport trucks.

Sandersville, Ga., Progress
August 29, 1940

Many of the colored youths of the south are volunteering for military duty. Negroes did heroic fighting during the first World War, and the youths of today are eager to come to the defense of the United States if their services are required. Many of them are fearless fighters, and the greatest trouble military commanders have during a battle is to restrain them from taking unnecessary risks.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE**1940 REGIMENTS IN REGULAR ARMY ETC.

Negro Army Units Listed and Clarified

SEP 27 1940
(By Al White)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26 (ANP)—Status of the Negro in the present national emergency far as the military is concerned was clarified here on Monday when Stephen Early, secretary to the President, issued the following statement:

"With the enactment of the Selective Service act the war department plans to organize several new colored regiments for the army and to expand existing organizations to full war strength. The expansion will affect both combat and service organizations of the regular army and the national guard, such as infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers, and quartermaster corps.

"Colored citizens constitute approximately nine per cent of the total population of the United States and the men selected for military service will be in about the same ratio. Of the first increment of 400,000 men to be called into the service about 36,000 will be colored.

"Until recently the following were the colored organizations in the regular army:

24th Infantry, Fort Benning, Ga.
25th Infantry, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
9th Cavalry, Fort Riley, Kans.
10th Cavalry, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

10th Cavalry, Fort Myer, Va.
10th Cavalry, West Point, N. Y.
School Detachment, Fort Sill, Okla.

School Detachment, Army War College, Washington, D. C.
School Detachment, Fort Belvoir, Va.

48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Bragg, N. C.
48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga.
48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Knox, Ky.
48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Sheridan, Ill.
47th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.
47th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Sam Houston, Tex.

"Recently the following new colored combat units were organized in the regular army:

349th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Okla.
76th Antiaircraft Battalion, Fort Bragg, N. C.
77th Antiaircraft Battalion, Fort Bragg, N. C.
(Both 76th and 77th to be ex-

panded into full regiments).
41st Engineers, Fort Bragg, N. C.
12 Truck Companies at various stations.

1 Chemical Company, Fort Eustis, Va.

"As soon as the first selected men are brought into the service, it is planned to expand all these units to full war strength.

"The following colored national guard organizations will soon be called into federal service for one year's active duty training, and recruited to full war strength.

369th Coast Artillery (antiaircraft) New York.

184th Field Artillery, Illinois

372nd Infantry, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio and Mass.

"The Civil Aeronautics authority, in cooperation with the army, is making a start in the development of colored personnel for the aviation service. Pilots, mechanics, and other specialists must first be trained as a nucleus for the formation of colored aviation units."

Released late Monday afternoon, the statement fully clarified the position of the Negro in the new military service the country is planning, and the present alignment has the approval of both Secretary of War Stimson and the chief of staff, General Marshall.

Oct. 16 has been set as the day for the general registration for the new selective service and it is expected that the new recruits will be sent to camp as soon as possible after the selections have been made.

Camp Dix in New Jersey and the old camp at Yaphank, Long Island, it is reported, are being readied to take care of the newcomers.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 REGIMENTS IN REGULAR ARMY

RECENT WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT SHOWS PRESENT AND PLANNED STATUS OF COLORED SOLDIERS IN U. S. ARMY

36,000 Negroes Due To Be Included When First Call Is Issued Next Month; Black Units Now In Existence Enumerated: More Planned
SEP 28 1940

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(ANP)— Status of the Negro in the present national emergency far as the military is concerned was clarified here on Monday when Stephen Early, secretary to the president, issued the following statement:

"With the enactment of the selective service act the war department plans to organize several new colored regiments for the army and to expand existing organizations to full war strength. The expansion will effect both combat and service organizations of the regular army and the national guard, such as infantry cavalry, artillery, engineers, and quartermaster corps.

"Colored citizens constitute approximately nine percent of the total population of the United States and the men selected for military service will be in about the same ratio. Of the first increment of 400,000 men to be called into the service about 36,000 will be colored.

Colored Army Units

"Until recently the following were the colored organizations in the regular army.

- 24th Infantry, Fort Benning, Ga.
- 25th Infantry, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
- 9th Cavalry, Fort Riley, Kans.
- 10th Cavalry, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.
- 10th Cavalry, Fort Myer, Va.
- 10th Cavalry, West Point, N. Y.
- School Detachment, Fort Sill, Okla.
- School Detachment, Army War College, Washington, D. C.
- School Detachment, Fort Belvoir, Va.

- 48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Bragg, N. C.
- 48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga.

48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Knox, Ky.

48th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Sheridan, Ill.

47th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash.

47th Quartermaster Regiment, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"Recently the following new colored combat units were organized in the regular army:

349th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Okla.

76th Antiaircraft Battalion, Fort Bragg, N. C.

77th Antiaircraft Battalion, Fort Bragg, N. C. (Both 76th and 77th to be expanded into full regiments).

41st Engineers, Fort Bragg, N. C.

12 Trucks Companies at various stations.

1 Chemical Company, Fort Eustis, Va.

"As soon as the first selected men are brought into the service, it is planned to expand all these units to full war strength.

"The following colored national guard organizations will soon be called into federal service for one year's active-duty training, and recruited to full war strength.

369th Coast Artillery (antiaircraft) New York.

184th Field Artillery, Ill.

372nd Infantry, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio and Mass.

"The Civil Aeronautics authority, in cooperation with the army, is making a start in the development of colored personnel for the aviation service. Pilots, mechanics, and other specialists must first be trained as a nucleus for the formation of aviation units."

Negro In Defense Program

Released late Monday afternoon.

the statement fully clarified the position of the Negro in the new military service the country is planning, and the present alignment has the approval of both Secretary of War Stimson and the chief of staff, General Marshall.

October 16, has been set as the day for the general registration for the new selective service and it is expected that the new recruits will be sent to camp—as soon as possible after the selections have been made.

Camp Dix in New Jersey and the old camp at Yaphank, Long Island, it is reported, are being readied to take care of the newcomers.

Local offices of the Reserve Corps have been asked just how soon they could report for duty and whether or not they would prefer being placed temporarily on the deferred list.

Many Rumors Afloat

Rumors are thick in the city that the local national guard will be called out in October to go to camp, however, it is believed that November will see the general massing of the Negro national guard in the designated places, none of which is as yet certain.

In the national defense program, Negroes are to be given every possible consideration according to Dr. Robert Weaver, who has been in constant conference with the authorities concerning the treatment of the Negro. Several interesting features have been worked out whereby the Negro is to receive the same treatment as the whites involved in the same program.

New Unit
Created
By Army

West A. Hamilton,
H. Donovan Queen
Ranking Officers

OCT 5 1940
NEWARK, N. J.—Mili-

tary officials here revealed last week that Col. West A. Hamilton and Lieut. Col. H. Donovan Queen, both of Washington, D. C., will be in command of the new 372 colored regiment recently created by the War Department.

Along with units from Washington, Baltimore and Massachusetts, the New Jersey battalion will become a part of the new military unit with the District of Columbia division as the headquarters company, the Baltimore unit as the Service company, and the New Jersey and Massachusetts companies completing the regimental setup.

RANKING OFFICERS

As indicated, the two highest ranking officers are members of the race, thus bearing out the War Department's new policy of having race officers to command colored troops. Col. Hamilton is the ranking race officer in the Army Reserves.

There is still some doubt as to who will be the major of the New Jersey company. Capt. Thomas M. Gregory of Atlantic City, is senior officer and next in line for promotion, but according to military rumors seniority may be overlooked in this instance. Capt. Berkely Mills of Trenton and Capt. Robert D. Trott of Newark have been in the army over 25 years and both men enjoy the support of influential military figures.

DU SABLE CADET DRIVE BRINGS IN 57 RECRUITS

The Du Sable R. O. T. C. unit under the leadership of Sergt. F. A. Wildfoster, has begun a new semester of activity, and has finished a drive for recruits that netted 57 new cadets. New members are:

Fred Braxton	Edward Rice
Velmar Williams	William Ross
Meldon Wood	Cornelius Shaw
James Williams	Edward Smith
David Fountain	William Stewart
Herbert Williams	George Thomas
James Banks	James Watson
Howard Churchill	Vernon Wells
Alfred Dumetz	Willie Eldridge
James Hooper	Herbert Proctor
James Jackson	Byron Dean
Odus Jackson	Raymond Lindsey
Frederick Jones	William Morrison
Harry Lawson	Perley Thompson
Robert Marshall	Samuel Green
Frederick Montgomery	William Wilson
Charles Nelson	Willie Lutes
Barnett Skyles	Herbert Fields
Eugene Robinson	Phillips Thomas
Charles Cobbins	Walter Toppins
Leon Rush	Daniel Randall
Ralph Armstrong	Claude McLin
Curtis Barry	James Fields
Cornelius Block	William Jones
Lloyd Foster	Cleveland Jones
Ruthel Gaddis	Theodore Smith

Robert Harrison
Rudolph Hearn
Paul Harris
Benton Martin
Charles McClendon
Montgomery Clements
William Nelson
Patrick O'Leary
Russell Parks
John Williams
Benjamin Fisher
Charles Floyd
Floyd McCloud
James McKnight
William Smith
Carl Miller
William Woods
Sylvester Woodson
The enrollment of the unit is now 300 cadets.

Army to Add 17 Colored Units

BOSTON. — The U. S. Army, under recently enacted defense legislation, will organize seventeen new colored units, requiring 4,595 additional men, according to information sent Julian D. Rainey, Boston attorney, this week, by Charles Michelson, director of publicity for the Democratic National Committee.

These units, based on information which Michelson said that he obtained from the War Department, will consist of:

One 155 mm. gun regiment; 2 coast artillery gun battalions, 1 engineer regiment, 12 quartermaster truck companies and 1 chemical company.

Senator A. Vandenberg Quizzes War Dept. About Units For Negro

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Of what is the war department afraid since it handles the Negro military problem with such delicacy and precision, refusing to obey the mandates of congress as far as the Negro is concerned with regard to aviation training for Negroes—and with the limited, emasculated regular army forces and the equally emasculated national guard?

Senator Arthur Vandenberg, able senator from the state of Michigan, brought this forcibly to the attention of his fellow senator when in debating against the Wadsworth-Burke conscription bill, he said:

"How about the thousands of patriotic colored citizens of the United States who cannot get into volunteer service at all because so relatively few units are provided for them? Under date of August 5, the secretary of war writes me regarding this question as follows:

Reads War Dept. Letter

"A large portion of the colored men who enlist in the army make the service a life-time career. For this reason there is a comparatively low-turnover in colored organizations, and consequently, comparatively a small number of openings for original enlistments at any one time. The question of the formation of additional colored units is under study in the war department."

"Here is a great sector of our people which can scarcely chisel its volunteer way into a service, which when it has had the chance it has always sustained with great devotion. We are advised that there is a small number of openings for original enlistments and that the opening up of these volunteer opportunities is now 'under study.'"

In the house at the same time, Representative Patrick, of Alabama, gave statistics to show that enlistments were higher in the South than in the North, citing the fact that in New York State with a population well over 12,000,000 there were only 7,013 volunteers in the first six months, while in the state of Texas, with a population of a little over 5,000,000 there were 6,648 volunteers in the same period.

No explanation of this variance was given, but the general consensus of opinion is that the cosmopolitan nature of the New York population, with its millions of aliens and foreign-born citizens, sympathies generally run toward the "mother-country"—and over half of the millions of New York State are concentrated in the narrow confines of New York, where in some sections, one does not hear English spoken at all.

WAR DEPARTMENT HAS NO CONTROL, SECRETARY SAYS

Efforts to Have Negro Guard Unit Housed In New Home Stymied

Like his predecessor, Harry Woodring, the present Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, has dumped the responsibility of quarters in the new Armory for the colored unit of the District National Guard into the laps of District officials.

In a letter to Dr. C. Herbert Marshall, Jr., president of the local NAACP, Secretary Stimson wrote on Saturday, in part: "Under the provisions of existing laws, the construction, supervision, and control of armories are matters for regulation by the State and local officials."

"I regret, therefore, that it is not within the province of the War Department to determine the units that may be housed in or may use the facilities of the armory to be erected for the District of Columbia National Guard."

Dravo Responds Not

"It is suggested that you communicate with Col. Charles A. Dravo, adjutant general of the District National Guard, who I am sure will give these matters his careful attention at the proper time."

(Editor's note: Dr. Marshall called attention of the matter to Col. Dravo in June upon the suggestion of the then Secretary Woodring but to date Col. Dravo has not seen fit to reply.)

"There are no plans at the present time for increasing the present allotment of colored units of the National Guard to the District of Columbia. However, the present Company A will be redesignated as the Headquarters Company of the 372nd Infantry (Rifle) in the near future. This will serve to increase somewhat the enlisted personnel allotted to this unit."

Roosevelt Gets Protest

A petition protesting against failure to include provision for Company A in plans for the Armory to be located at the foot of E. Capitol Street, was recently sent to President Roosevelt by the Federation of Citizens' Associations, W. D. Nixon, chairman of the special committee on the Guard.

The petition also asked the expansion of the colored guard unit to its former battalion strength.

The question of quarters for the colored unit in the new Armory was also brought to the attention of President Roosevelt in June by Dr. Marshall. The Chief Executive replied also that under the law the District military officials have jurisdiction over placement of the units.

"Members Not Complaining"

When the petition of the Citizens' Association is reported to have been unofficially called to the attention of Brig. Gen. A. L. Cox, commanding general of the District National Guard, he is said to have described it as the work of "those who have not taken the trouble to inform themselves as to the facts."

He reputedly further stated that he had never received a single protest from a member of Company A, but that all complaints seemed to have been started by a group of outsiders.

At present, General Cox said that Company A has less crowded quarters than other units of the Guard in its own Armory at Twelfth and U Streets, Northwest

Let's Volunteer

October 10, 1940 is to become a memorable day in American history. On that day the United States will set in motion the machinery to draft thousands of young men into military service for a year. After weeks of debate, Congress enacted conscription as a national defense measure.

Already communities are at work placing the machinery in readiness for the registration of all male citizens of the nation between the ages of 21 to 36. Washington is no exception, but the local set-up is unique. Elsewhere throughout the nation registration is to be effected by the officials who serve their municipalities in State and national elections. The District of Columbia, the voteless capital of the nation, has no such organization. Men of the District must bear arms but can not vote.

Compliance with compulsory registration has required a special set-

up in the District for that one occasion. Every teacher in the public schools is to assist in the task. An attempt is being made to assign WPA workers. Even so, there will still be need for the services of hundreds of volunteers.

That brings us directly to the point of this—an appeal for volunteers to aid in registration.

When the plans were first published some weeks ago, colored citizens protested a provision that colored and white registrants should present themselves at separate centers in the same area. That protest was well founded. World War registration was cited as a desirable precedent. The commissioners vetoed the discriminatory provision.

Now the Commissioners are calling for citizens to volunteer for registration service. Just as Negroes exercised the right of petition in the first instance they have a duty to perform in the second. To be entitled to the full privileges of citizenship Negroes must be ready and willing to discharge the obligations of citizenship. The struggle for an equitable share in the advantages and benefits of being Americans is arduous and often tedious at best. Demonstrated willingness to render volunteer service to city and nation can do much to help the general cause of race advancement.

A. K. Savoy, assistant superintendent of schools, is the colored member of the District draft board. In addition to his duties as an administration officer in the public schools—duties which are especially exacting at this season, he has been called upon to render national service. Choice of Mr. Savoy is wise.

Let us record our approval of his appointment by volunteering to aid in registration.

When the record of volunteer service is written, let it be one to which we can point with pride.

NEGRO IN NATIONAL DEFENSE- 1940 REGIMENTS IN REGULAR ARMY

Camden, S. C. Chronicle
August 30, 1940

The largest group of negroes ever enlisted in the United States army at any one time, as far as recruiting records show, was sworn in this week at Philadelphia at a ceremony in front of the Negro Soldiers and Sailors monument. The group numbered 150 men, who will be enrolled in the new Seventy-sixth coast artillery—the first Negro regiment since Confederate war days.

Army Recruits Train Under Race Personnel

**Master Sergeant Major DeWitt
Highest Non-Commissioned Officer
Commands Large Regimental Staff**

SEP 28 1940 By E. B. REA
Journal and Guide Staff Writer

FORT BRAGG, N. C.—The inclusion of Negro troops in both the combat and service organizations of the Regular Army and the development of colored personnel are two of the phases of speeded up national preparedness program attracting attention here in the tented city of Fort Bragg.

Three colored combat units recently organized are stationed here temporarily, but are actively engaged in building themselves into the kind of timber that will be heard from if, and when, called to the colors to defend the nation against invasion or threats of invasion.

Fort Bragg is housing a unit of the 41st Engineers and two units of the Coast Artillery anti-aircraft battalion, the 76th and the 77th, along with four quartermaster companies. The engineer regiment is composed of 748 boys, the two coast artillery battalions, 524 each, with each quartermaster company composed of 90.

ORDINARY LIFE

Life here is that of ordinary army life. The same rules and regulations exist as in the preparation for the World's War. However, if tramp, tramp, tramp of the sentry and other maneuvers characteristic of army life make Fort Bragg a typical war-time army camp.

COLORED OFFICERS

A picked personnel of 93 non-commissioned officers from the 24th Infantry, Fort Benning, Ga., and 20 from Fort Huachuca, near Tucson, Arizona are acting as recruit instructors, under white superior officers.

Chief among these are Colonel J. E. Wood, a native of Elizabeth City, N. C.; Major Robert D. Ingalls of New York, Captain George T. Derby of Louisiana; and Lieutenant William N. Beard, a native of New Bern, N. C.

The coast artillery battalions are being taught the use of the army rifle and the .50-calibre machine gun to be used against low flying aircraft.

The engineers are taught construction work, including the erection of bridges, etc. for

the advance of other units, as well as the method of destroying or covering the retreat of these units, while it is the duty of the quartermaster companies to facilitate the transportation of army supplies.

SATISFACTION PREVAILS

A survey of the camp revealed many angles of army life as far as these colored recruits are concerned. Questioning of more than a hundred individuals among the "greenies," as well as their superiors, failed to disclose any degree of dissatisfaction.

However, there was a revelation of real sanitation, discipline, recreational facilities and respect for each other.

The trip through the camp was made possible through the unstinted cooperation of Colonel Wood and the public relations bureau, which invited a critical inspection of men and machinery not engaged in any restrictive operations.

VETERAN SERGEANT

The highest non-commissioned officer in the group turned out to be Master Sergeant Major Henry DeWitt, a native of New York who has had 25 years of service, 18 of these having been spent at Fort Benning and who is regarded as

the outstanding officer among the colored units. He commands the largest and highest paid colored regiment staff in the army comprised of seven master sergeants, 11 technical sergeants, seven first sergeants, 35 staff sergeants, 89 sergeants and 105 corporals.

The use of Sergeant Major DeWitt is considered unusual in army annals in that he reached his rank in 11 years when ordinarily it requires from 20 to 24 years service for the position. The esteem in which he is held was shown by members of the 24th Infantry when he was named to Fort Bragg. When he began to pick his staff, 93 men volunteered to follow him.

FACILITIES SAME

The facilities for colored and white recruits are the same, Sergeant DeWitt explained. He made it known that his company was composed mostly of men from the South, all of whom were progressing rapidly under instructions with not a single case of dissatisfaction being called to his attention.

The army is offering better opportunities for the colored boy now than ever, he stated, adding that they had proved good pupils, since instructions were less complicated than in the World's War.

The recruits have not begun actual use of rifles and other weapons. They undergo daily rifle drills and basic training. Machine guns will be drawn later.

PERSONAL STAFF

His personal staff includes: Sergeants Cecil Nash, headquarters and service company; Penrose, court marshal and plans and training officer; Frank Ruffin, supply sergeant of F Company; William M. Hodges, stenographer in regimental headquarters, and Willie L. Johnson, regimental file and distribution clerk.

Captain Sylvan Berliner of the Regular Army has command of the coast artillery unit No. 76, with First Lieutenant Jacob Frank, of the coast artillery reserve, and Second Lieutenant James C. Parker as aides.

Among the sergeants in this battalion are Lawrence Green of New York, for the last 20 years with the 10th Cavalry at West Point, N. Y., and W. Heath, a native of Trenton, N. J., who saw active service in the Mexican War in 1916 and the World War in 1918, later being stationed at Fort Riley, Kans., with the Ninth Cavalry.

FROM MANY SECTIONS

All of the colored recruits are not from the South, however, as Battery C, 77th Coast Artillery is composed of boys from

Illinois and Michigan. Staff Sergeant H. Bailey is one of the recruit instructors in this battery. A veteran of 25 years with the 10th Cavalry he also served with the 8th Illinois and saw service in the World War where he was gassed.

DAILY ROUTINE

The daily routine for the recruits is as follows:

Reveille, 6:30 a. m.; breakfast, 7:00; drill, 8:00 to 11:00; dinner, 12:00; technical training, 1:00 to 3:00 p. m.; drill, 3:00 to 4:30; retreat, 5:00; supper, 5:15; relaxation to 9:00 when all lights are turned out.

Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons are used for athletic competition under recreation officers and their assistants.

War Department Tells Plans for 6 Regiments

DEC 21 1940 WASHINGTON

Induction of the 372nd Infantry into the Federal service, originally scheduled for between January 3 and 19, has been postponed tentatively until March 10, the War Department announced on Thursday.

The 372nd is composed of National Guard units of the District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Ohio.

Facilities Not Ready

Factors given as responsible for the delay were inadequacy of shelter and unreadiness of utilities for the men at Fort Dix, N.J., where this regiment will be stationed.

The 369th Coast Artillery (anti-aircraft), New York National Guard, is scheduled for induction into Federal service on January 13, and will be stationed at Fort Ontario, N.Y.

Induction of the 184th Field Artillery, Illinois National Guard, is scheduled for January 6. It will be stationed at Fort Custer, Mich.

Texas Unit Being Formed

The 54th Coast Artillery (155-millimeter tractor drawn) will be activated at the Galveston Replacement Center in the vicinity of Texas City, Texas, early in February, the War Department announced on Tuesday.

Enlisted cadres for this regiment are now being organized from personnel of the 76th and 77th Coast Artillery (anti-aircraft) Regiments, both stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Has White Officers

A 155-millimeter gun regiment (tractor drawn), Coast Artillery, consists of regimental headquarters and band, headquarters battery, searchlight battery, attached medical personnel chaplain, and three battalions.

Each battalion has a headquarters battery and ammunition train, and two batteries of four 155 millimeter guns each. The total approximate commissioned and enlisted strength will be 1,600 men, the commissioned officers being white.

Cavalry Shifts Ordered

Scattered units of the Tenth Cavalry have been ordered to effect permanent transfers to Ft. Riley, Kans., the War Department announced on Wednesday.

It is believed that these move-

ments are preliminary to the organization of a cavalry regiment, with the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry forming the nucleus, to be commanded by Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis.

9th Already There

The units to be transferred are the Tenth Cavalry, less the second squadron and machine gun troop from Fort Leavenworth, Kans.; the machine gun troop and second squadron, from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., and Troop F from Fort Myer, Va. The Ninth Cavalry is already stationed at Fort Riley.

Also ordered to effect a permanent transfer from Fort Sheridan, Ill., to Camp Custer, Mich., is Company C of the 48th Quarter Regiment (truck).

No J.C. for Indians

Scornful laughter is bound to be produced by one announcement of the War Department, made on Friday, concerning its policy respecting Indian trainees.

"Its policy of procurement, assignment and training of Indian Selective Service trainees," the War Department announcement read, "will be the same as for other trainees."

"Indian soldiers are serving at present in every arm and service of the United States Army, and have served the army with distinction in every major war this country has been engaged in."

Exclusion of colored personnel from the air and signal corps of the army continues.

Warfield Quits 184th Artillery;

DEC 21 1940

CHICAGO, (ANP).—With the resignation of Colonel William J. Warfield from the post of commanding officer of the 184th Field Artillery comes the appointment of Dr. Julian Dawson, 52-year-old senior attending surgeon on the Provident Hospital staff.

Colonel Dawson, formerly lieutenant-colonel of the old Eighth Regiment (recently converted into the 184th Field Artillery unit of the National Guard) saw service overseas during the World War as regimental surgeon in the 365th Infantry, the 317th Am-

munition Train and with several divisions in France.

Joined Eighth in 1922

Since 1922, when he joined the old Eighth as regimental surgeon, Colonel Dawson has held several important posts. The only break in his military career since then came in 1925, when he went to Europe for post-graduate study in surgery.

In 1935 he was promoted to major of infantry and assigned as regimental plans and training officer until the unit became the 184th Field Artillery. The former lieutenant colonel was assigned as commanding officer of the Second Battalion. This post he was holding when he was promoted to head the unit on Tuesday.

The retired Colonel Warfield has left the National Guard to devote his time to his duties as representative of the Fifth Senatorial District in the State Legislature.

Capt. Johnson Quits As Member of 369th Outfit

DEC 7 1940 NEW YORK, N.Y.

Revelation of Attorney James W. Johnson's resignation of his captain's commission in Harlem's 369th Coast Artillery Regiment this week created a wide stir in Harlem and speculation seethed after Johnson admitted to reports he had offered his resignation because of a "feeling" he had not been properly rewarded during the recent changes in the official family of the famous military unit.

Capt. Johnson, who is also Chief Deputy Collector of the local Internal Revenue office, confirmed the report of his resignation Wednesday morning simultaneous with the announcement by the 369th's commanding officer, Col. Chauncey Hooper, of his new staff.

"I have served since November 9, 1933, as Regimental Adjutant under four commanding officers," Capt. Johnson said, "and during three critical periods. I served long and well. And on the basis of that record, I didn't feel like going on under a fifth commanding officer. I don't feel that I was properly considered, and when you disagree with a policy the best thing to do is get away from it."

The resignation, it was learned, was submitted to Col. Hooper two weeks ago. Since then, the Rev. B. C. Robeson, pastor of Mother Zion Church, submitted his resignation also, on the

grounds that his clerical duties wouldn't allow him to join the 369th at Oswego.

Col. Hooper told reporters both resignations are "pending." At the same time, Col. Hooper announced that Capt. Harry Reubel had been tentatively chosen to take Capt. Johnson's place as Regimental Adjutant.

Others named to the staff of Col. Hooper are: Major Wilmer Lucas, executive officer, Capt. Vernon Riddick, supply officer, Lt. Cato Baskerville, acting intelligence officer, and Major Robert Carter, surgeon officer, was mentioned as successor to the Rev. Robeson, as chaplain.